Sonic
SONIC SELECT
BOOK FIVE
SONIC KIDS
PENDERS • SPAZIANTE • BOLLERS
AND MANY MORE!

SONIC SELECT 5

BOOK FIVE

featuring the talents of

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SPECIAL THANKS TO ANTHONY GACCIONE & CINDY CHAU @ SEGA LICENSING

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"When You and I Were Young, Sally" (Sonic Super Special #5):
Years ago, the young Sonic the Hedgehog and his friends lived a care-free life in Knothole. But one startling discovery would set them on the path that would lead them to become the team we know today!

"STOP...Sonic Time!" (Sonic Super Special #5):
A young Sonic the Hedgehog performs a mysterious transaction for Tails' birthday. But while the hedgehog's away, the evil Doctor Robotnik will play! The madman's latest device shows Sonic there's no time like the present!

"Zoneward Bound" (Sonic Super Special #9):
Sonic the Hedgehog and his friends have been to many strange and dangerous zones – pocket dimensions where anything can happen. But their years of experience had to start somewhere! A winter morning romp turns into a surreal adventure for the young Freedom Fighters!

"My Secret Guardian" (Sonic Super Special #9):
She was heir to the throne. He was the next in line of a grand lineage. The young Princess Sally and Knuckles meet for the first time! But when two young, headstrong kids can't meet eye-to-eye, will Knuckles' secret meeting be revealed?

"Eve of Destruction" (Sonic Super Special #9):
It's the beginning of a new partnership - and the beginning of the end! The Prower family is expecting their first child any moment now. But in the shadows, the traitor who will become Dr. Robotnik makes a breakthrough in his sinister plans to conquer Mobius!

"Acension" (Sonic Super Special #11):
Princess Sally finally confronts the Source of All – the mystic substance that has guided her family for generations. What secrets does the glowing pool hold? What futures does it foretell? More importantly: what will Sally do with this insight?

"Solo" (Sonic Super Special #11):
Hershey takes the plunge in her first solo mission deep in enemy territory. Her objective: find out what happened to one of her missing squad mates! What fate has befallen Valdez? And will Hershey survive long enough to make her report?

"Family" (Sonic Super Special #11):
Lupe leads the Wolf Pack Freedom Fighters on the last leg of their long journey home, but it's not the happy ending they expected. Amid the ruins arise familiar faces and a threat to the last of Lupe's kind!

"Upgrade" (Sonic Super Special #11):
Bunnie Rabbot has dreamed of becoming normal ever since she was half-roboticized. Those dreams may be dashed, though, as she receives dire news. Now she must make the hardest decision in her life.

"Shadows" (Sonic Super Special #11):
Julie-Su – ex-Dark Legionnaire, Knuckles' partner... but who is she really? Not even she knows! Now she must comb the remains of a Dark Legion base to find the answers to her life. What she finds not only reveals her origin, but the sinister secrets of the Dark Legion's leadership!

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SONIC SUPER SPECIAL ™
SONIC KIDS
™

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL™

SONIC KIDS™

"When You And I Were Young, Sally"

Written by Mike Gallagher
Pencils by Manny Galan
Inks by Jim Amash
Lettering by Vickie Williams
Colors by Barry Grossman

"STOP... Sonic Time!"

Plot by Tom Rolston
Script by Karl Bollers
Pencils by Art Mawhinney
Inks by Jim Amash
Lettering by Jeff Powell
Colors by Ken Penders

"Total Re-Genesis"

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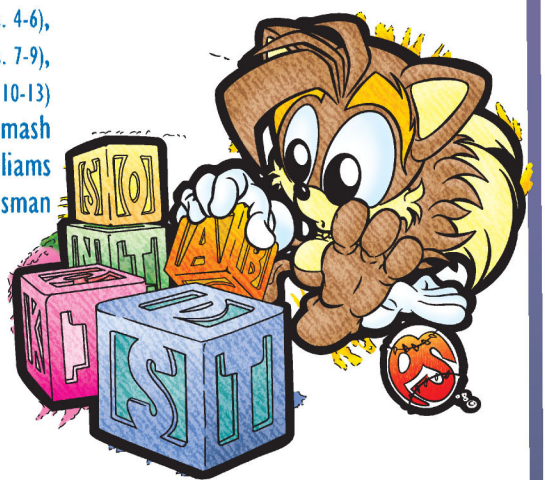
Art Mawhinney (pgs. 4-6),
Sam Maxwell (pgs. 7-9),
John Hebert (pgs. 10-13)
Inks by Jim Amash
Lettering by Vickie Williams
Colors by Barry Grossman



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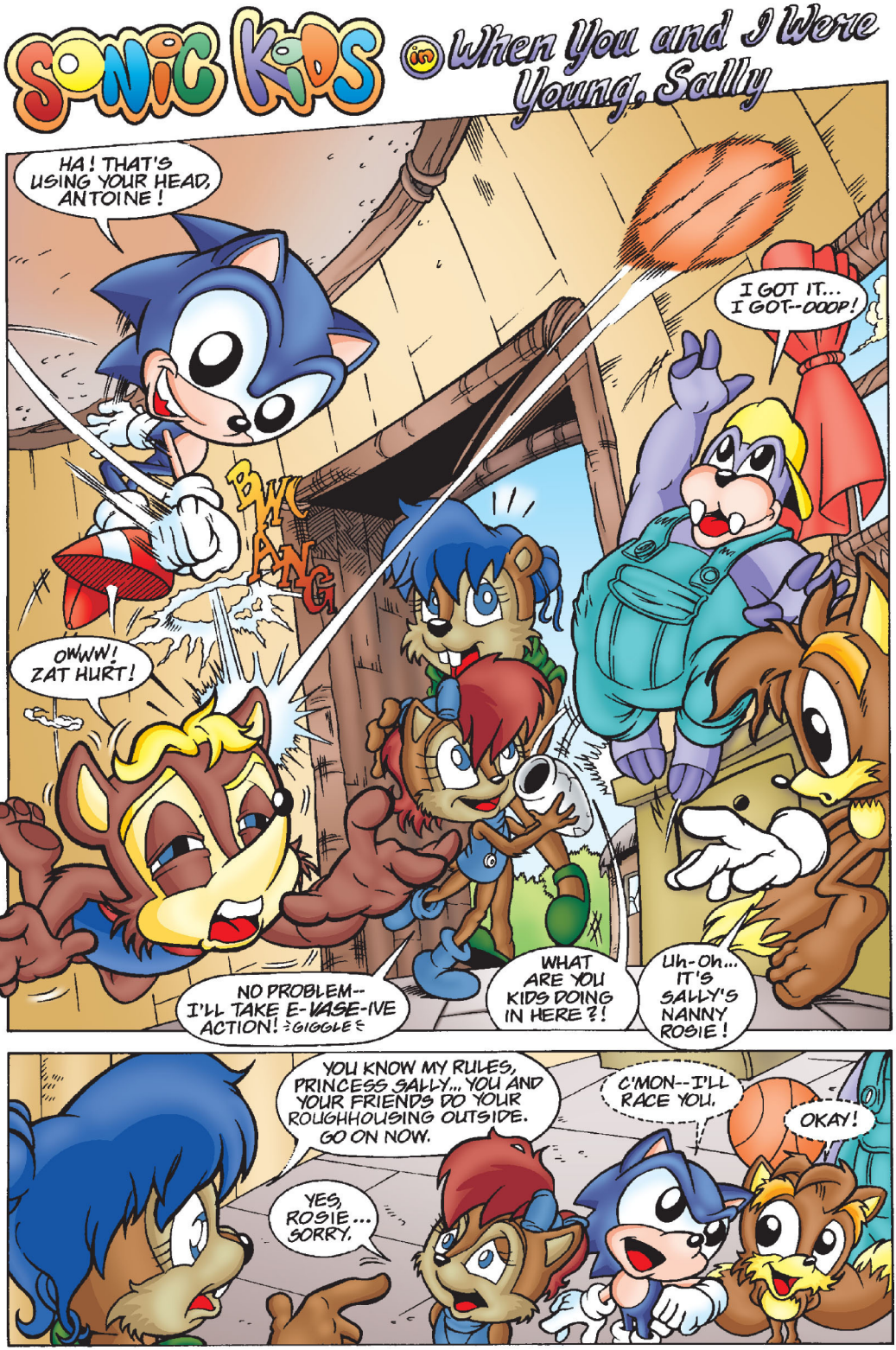
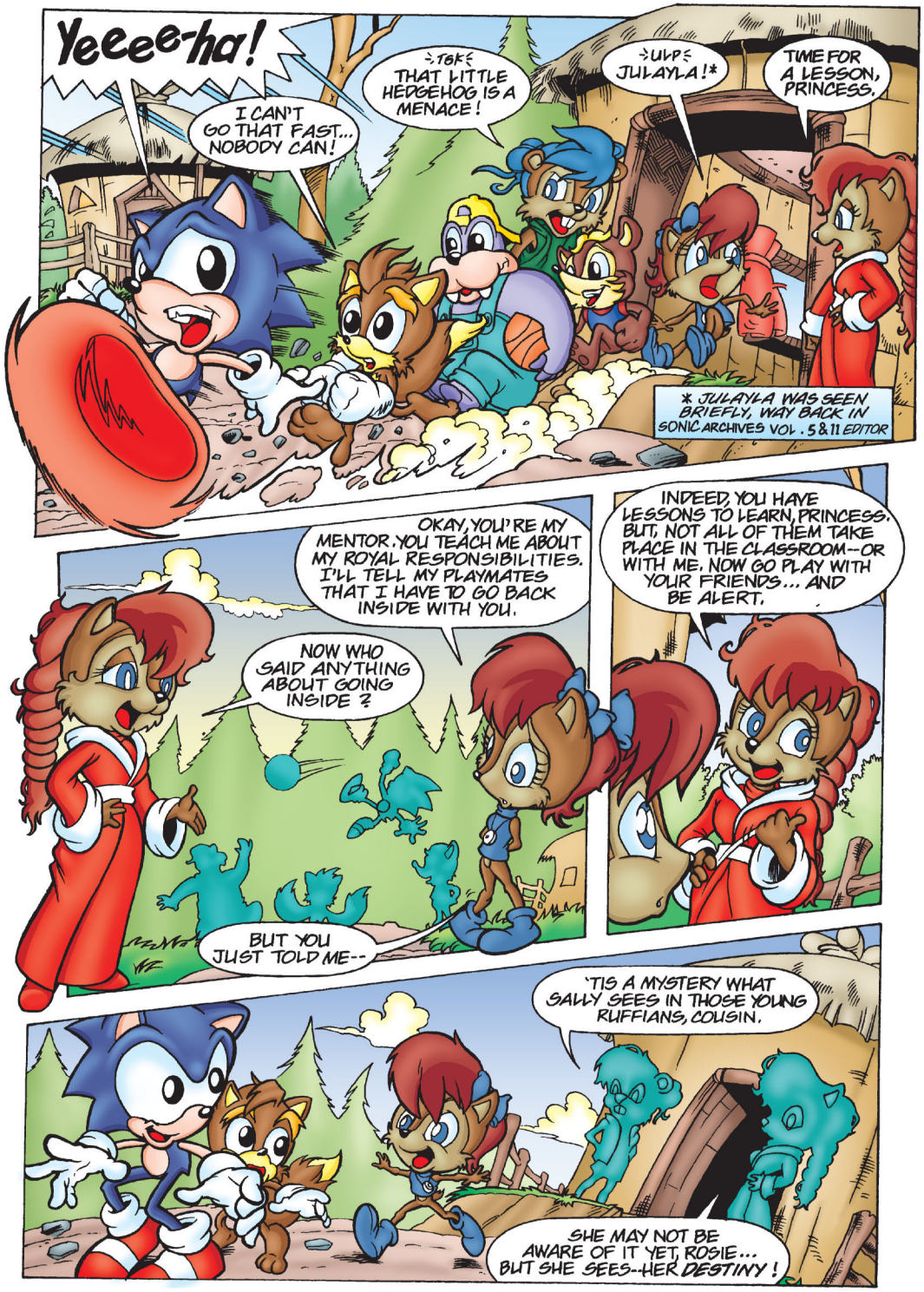
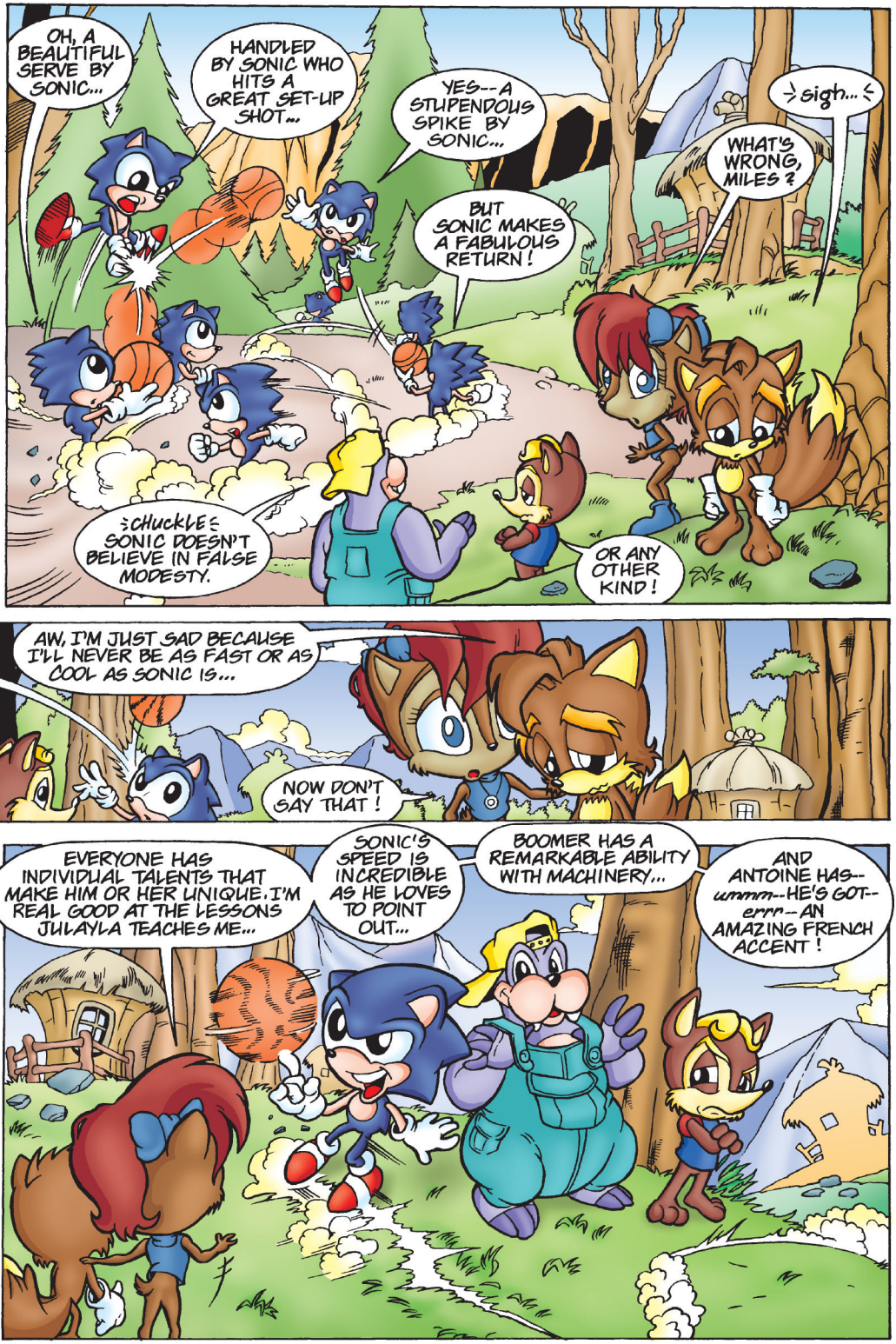
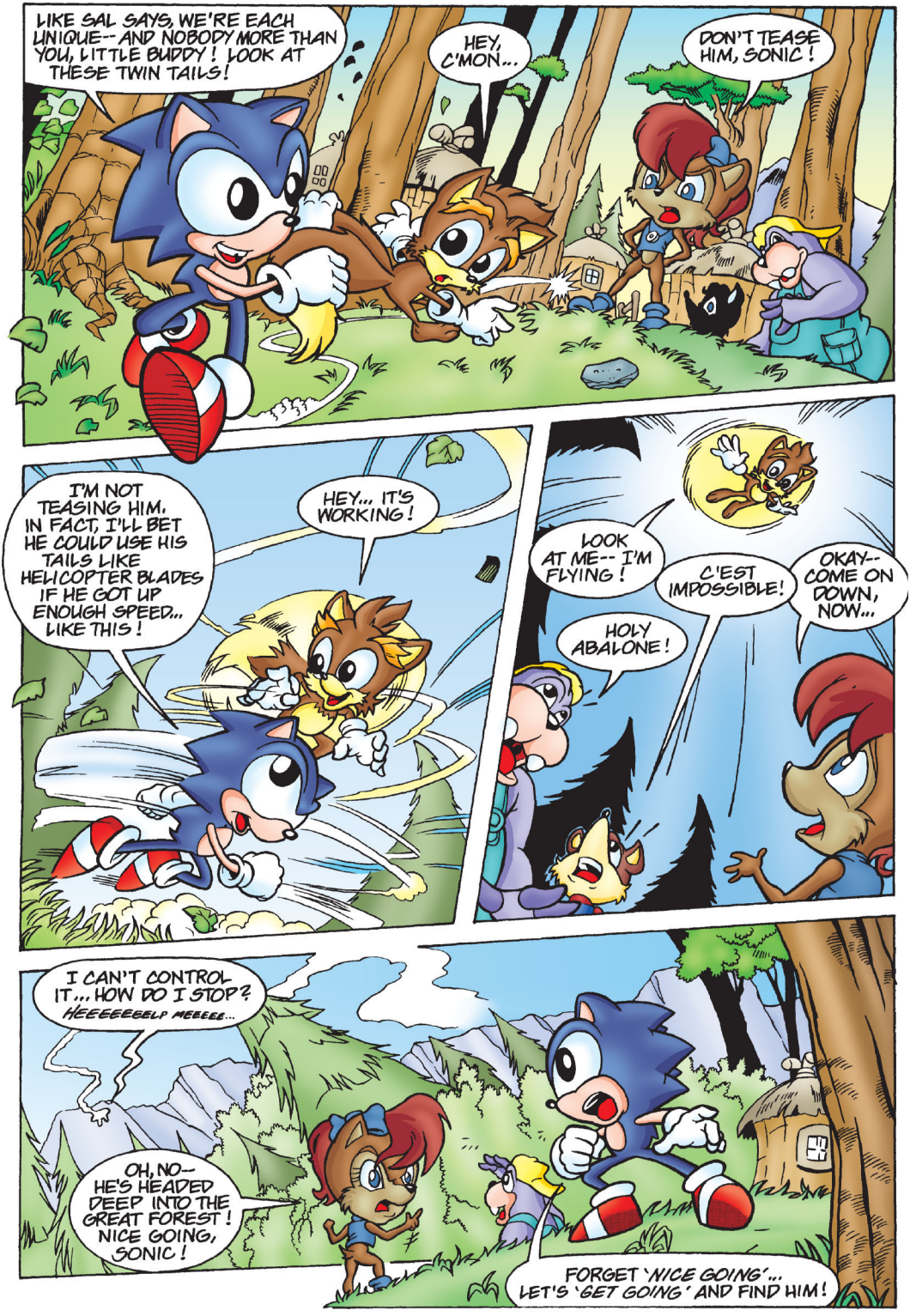
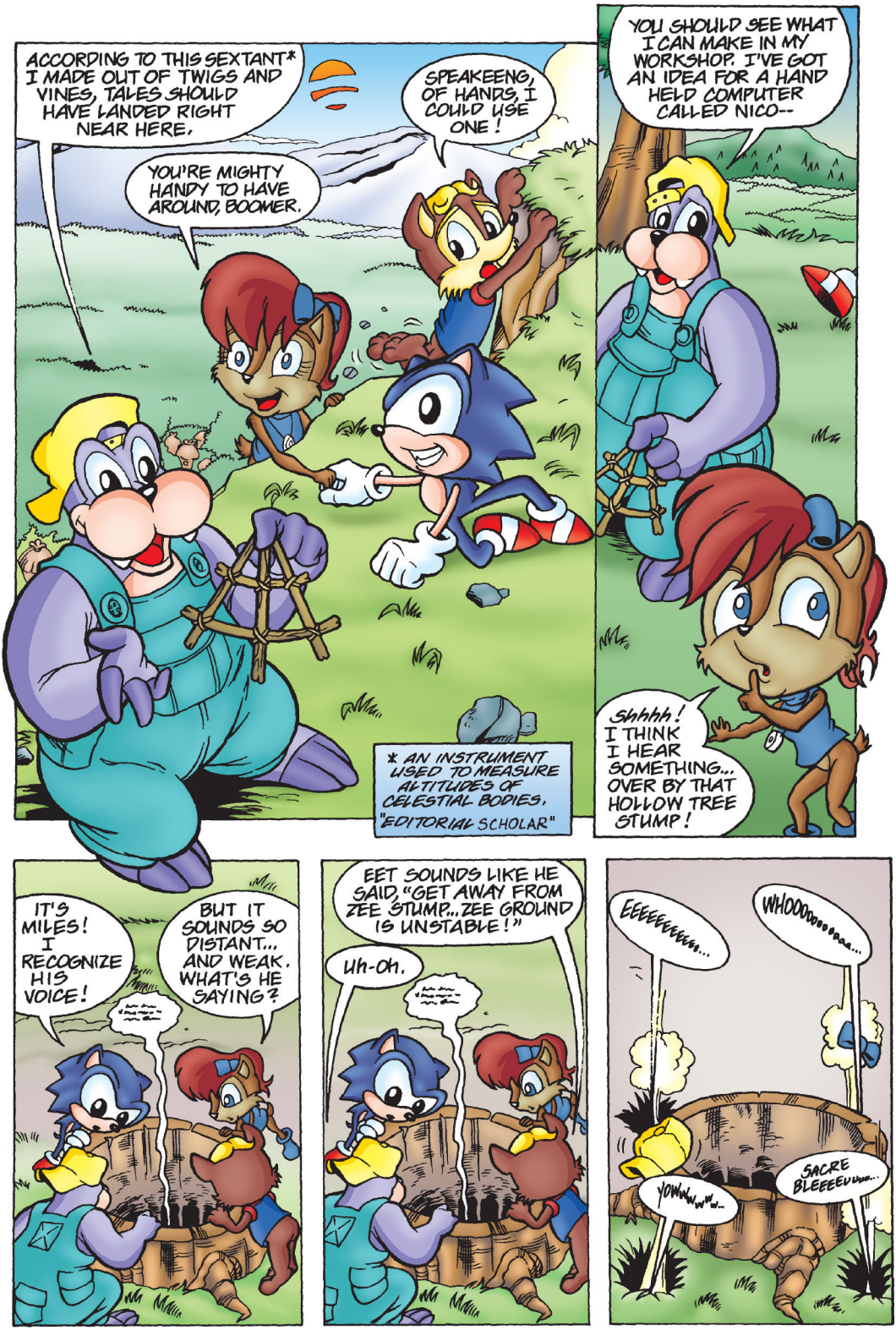

SONIC KIDS in When You and I Were Young, Sally
HA! THAT'S USING YOUR HEAD, ANTOINE!
I GOT IT... I GOT--OOOP!
BAK ANG
OWWW! ZAT HURT!
NO PROBLEM-- I'LL TAKE E-VASE-IVE ACTION! =GIGGLE=
WHAT ARE YOU KIDS DOING IN HERE?!
Uh-Oh... IT'S SALLY'S NANNY ROSIE!
YOU KNOW MY RULES, PRINCESS SALLY... YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS DO YOUR ROUGHHOUSING OUTSIDE. GO ON NOW.
YES, ROSIE... SORRY.
C'MON--I'LL RACE YOU.
OKAY!

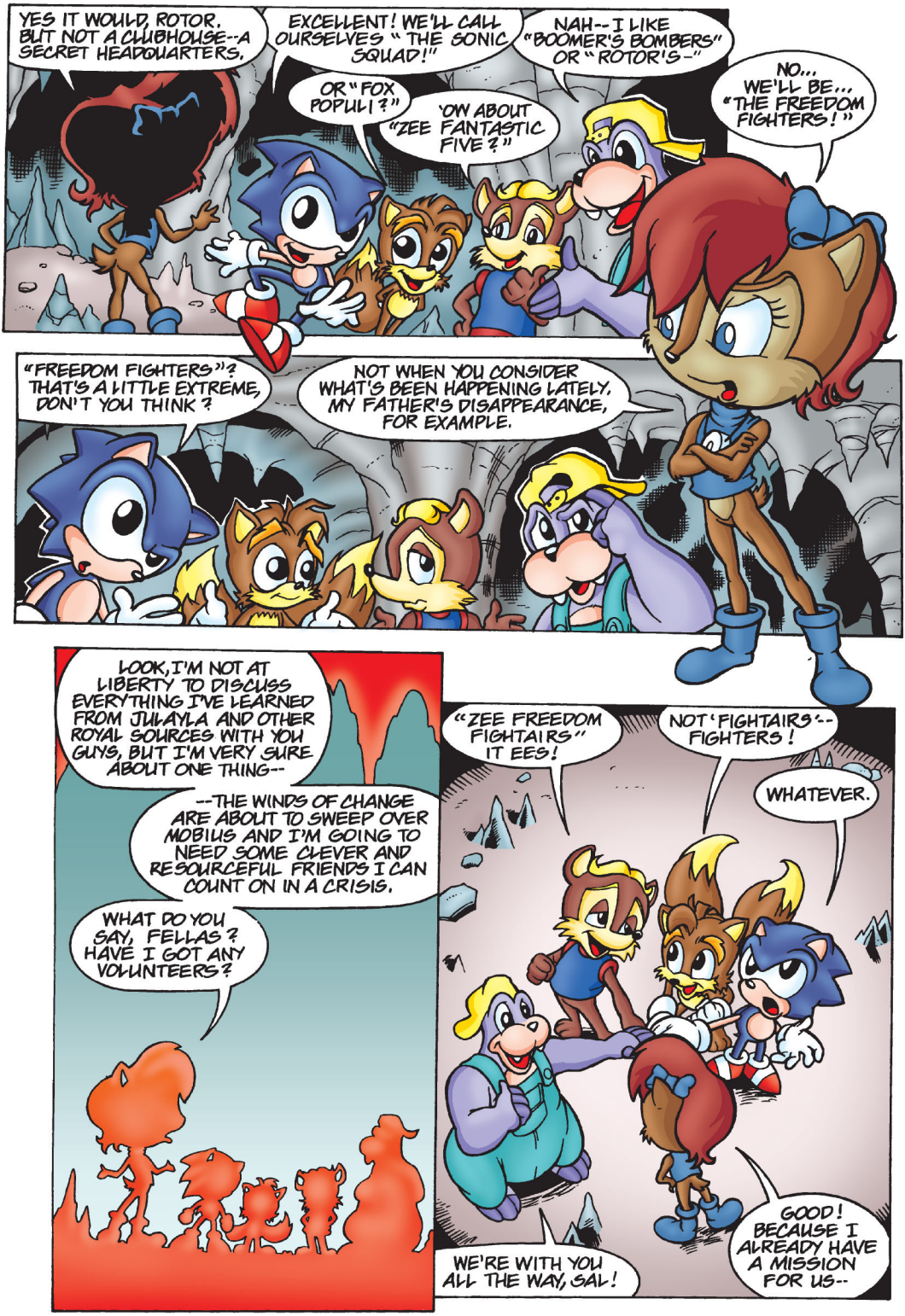

Yeeee-ha!
I CAN'T GO THAT FAST... NOBODY CAN!
:TSK: THAT LITTLE HEDGEHOG IS A MENACE!
:ULP: JULAYLA!*
TIME FOR A LESSON, PRINCESS.
* JULAYLA WAS SEEN BRIEFLY, WAY BACK IN SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 5 & 11 EDITOR
OKAY, YOU'RE MY MENTOR. YOU TEACH ME ABOUT MY ROYAL RESPONSIBILITIES. I'LL TELL MY PLAYMATES THAT I HAVE TO GO BACK INSIDE WITH YOU.
NOW WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT GOING INSIDE?
BUT YOU JUST TOLD ME--
INDEED, YOU HAVE LESSONS TO LEARN, PRINCESS. BUT, NOT ALL OF THEM TAKE PLACE IN THE CLASSROOM--OR WITH ME. NOW GO PLAY WITH YOUR FRIENDS... AND BE ALERT.
'TIS A MYSTERY WHAT SALLY SEES IN THOSE YOUNG RUFFIANS, COUSIN.
SHE MAY NOT BE AWARE OF IT YET, ROSIE... BUT SHE SEES--HER DESTINY!

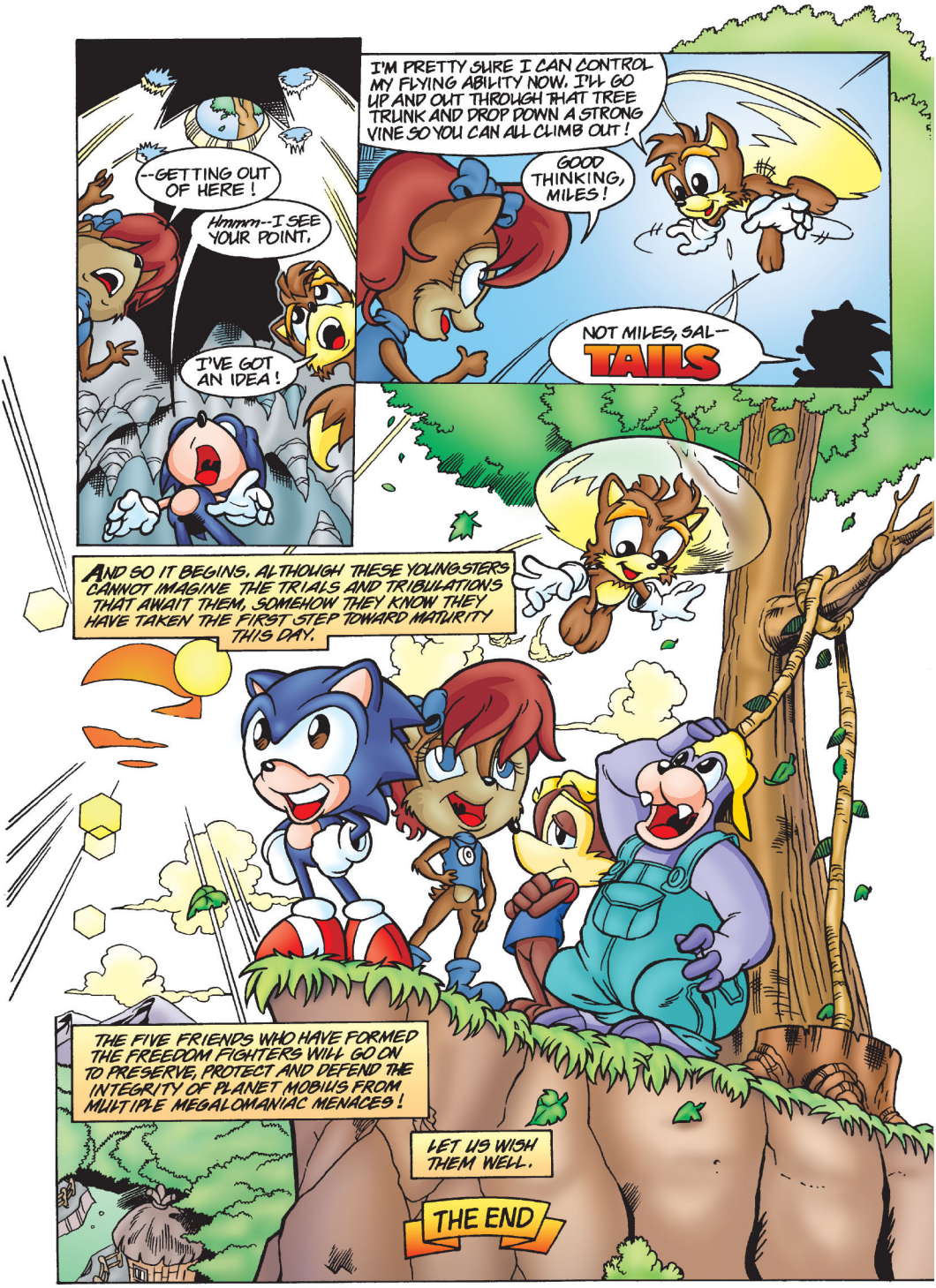

OH, A BEAUTIFUL SERVE BY SONIC...
HANDLED BY SONIC WHO HITS A GREAT SET-UP SHOT...
YES--A STUPENDOUS SPIKE BY SONIC...
BUT SONIC MAKES A FABULOUS RETURN!
:sigh...:
WHAT'S WRONG, MILES?
:CHUCKLE: SONIC DOESN'T BELIEVE IN FALSE MODESTY.
OR ANY OTHER KIND!
AW, I'M JUST SAD BECAUSE I'LL NEVER BE AS FAST OR AS COOL AS SONIC IS...
NOW DON'T SAY THAT!
EVERYONE HAS INDIVIDUAL TALENTS THAT MAKE HIM OR HER UNIQUE. I'M REAL GOOD AT THE LESSONS JULAYLA TEACHES ME...
SONIC'S SPEED IS INCREDIBLE AS HE LOVES TO POINT OUT...
BOOMER HAS A REMARKABLE ABILITY WITH MACHINERY...
AND ANTOINE HAS--ummm--HE'S GOT--errr--AN AMAZING FRENCH ACCENT!

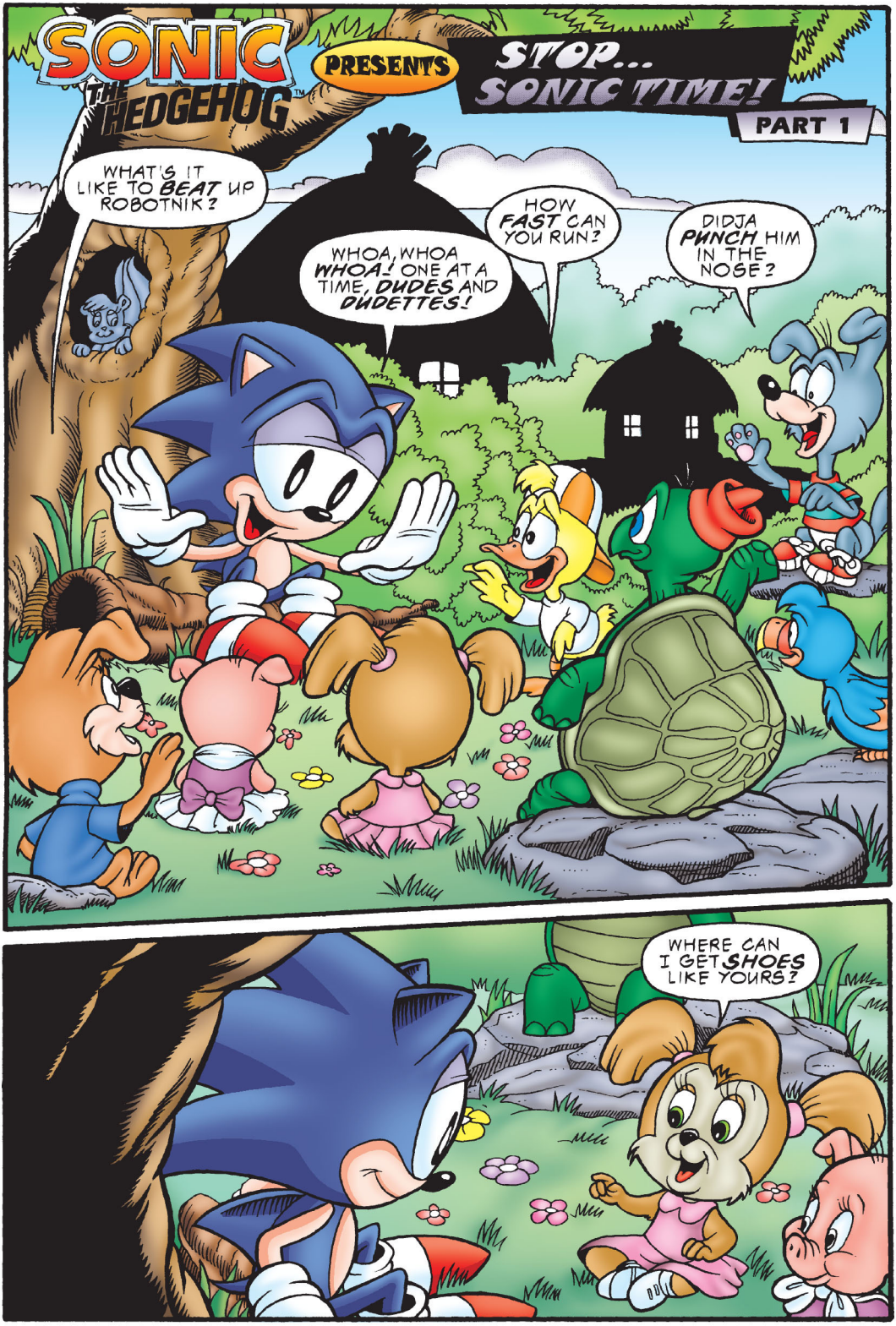

LIKE SAL SAYS, WE'RE EACH UNIQUE-- AND NOBODY MORE THAN YOU, LITTLE BUDDY! LOOK AT THESE TWIN TAILS!
HEY, C'MON...
DON'T TEASE HIM, SONIC!
I'M NOT TEASING HIM. IN FACT, I'LL BET HE COULD USE HIS TAILS LIKE HELICOPTER BLADES IF HE GOT UP ENOUGH SPEED... LIKE THIS!
HEY... IT'S WORKING!
LOOK AT ME-- I'M FLYING!
C'EST IMPOSSIBLE!
OKAY-- COME ON DOWN, NOW...
HOLY ABALONE!
I CAN'T CONTROL IT... HOW DO I STOP? HEEEEEEELP MEEEEE...
OH, NO-- HE'S HEADED DEEP INTO THE GREAT FOREST! NICE GOING, SONIC!
FORGET 'NICE GOING'... LET'S 'GET GOING' AND FIND HIM!

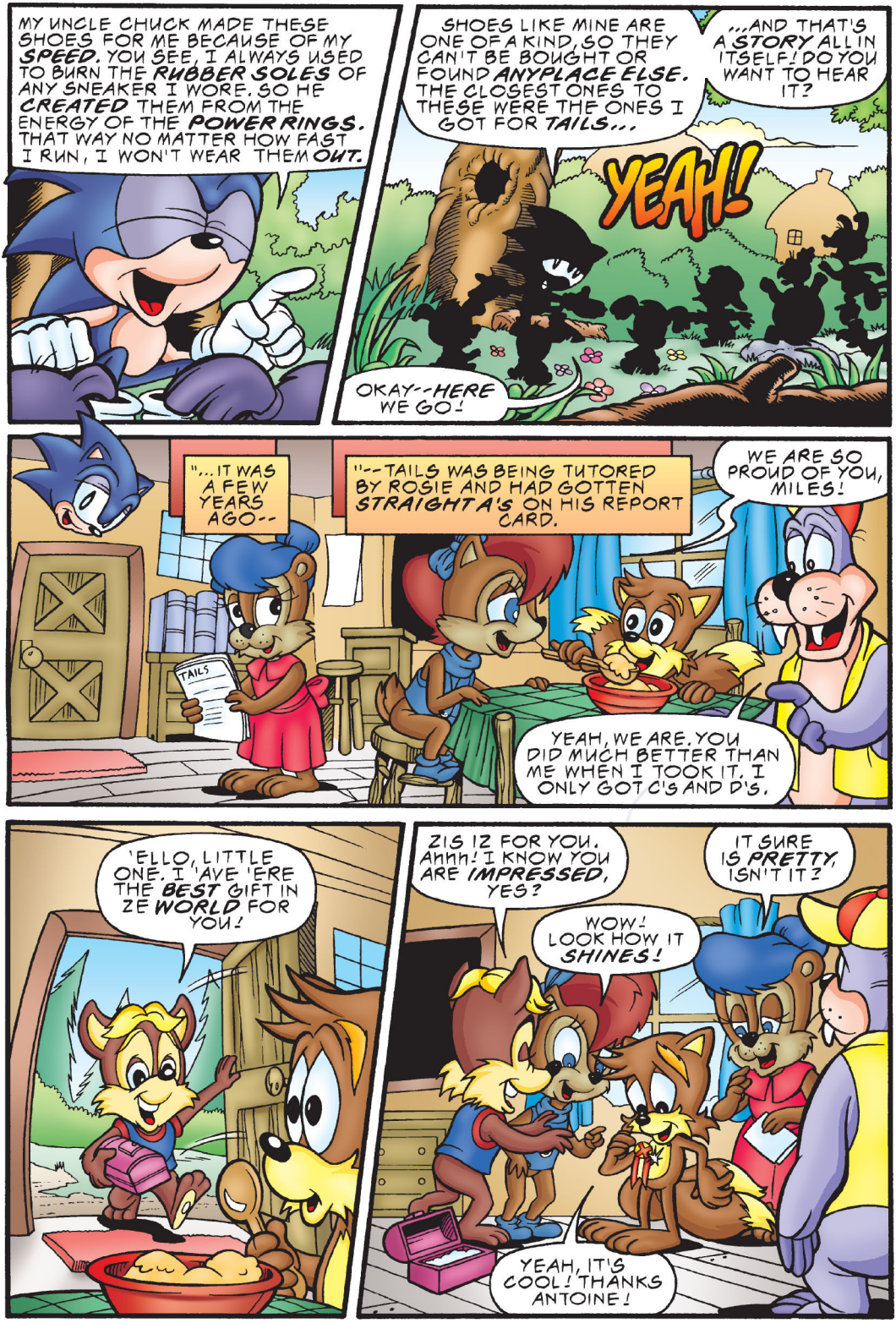

ACCORDING TO THIS SEXTANT* I MADE OUT OF TWIGS AND VINES, TALES SHOULD HAVE LANDED RIGHT NEAR HERE.
SPEAKEENG, OF HANDS, I COULD USE ONE!
YOU'RE MIGHTY HANDY TO HAVE AROUND, BOOMER.
YOU SHOULD SEE WHAT I CAN MAKE IN MY WORKSHOP. I'VE GOT AN IDEA FOR A HAND HELD COMPUTER CALLED NICO--
Shhhh! I THINK I HEAR SOMETHING... OVER BY THAT HOLLOW TREE STUMP!
* AN INSTRUMENT USED TO MEASURE ALTITUDES OF CELESTIAL BODIES. "EDITORIAL SCHOLAR"
IT'S MILES! I RECOGNIZE HIS VOICE!
BUT IT SOUNDS SO DISTANT... AND WEAK. WHAT'S HE SAYING?
EET SOUNDS LIKE HE SAID, "GET AWAY FROM ZEE STUMP... ZEE GROUND IS UNSTABLE!"
Uh-oh.
EEEEEEEEEEE...
WHOOOOOOOOOO...
YOWWWWWW...
SACRE BLEEEEU...

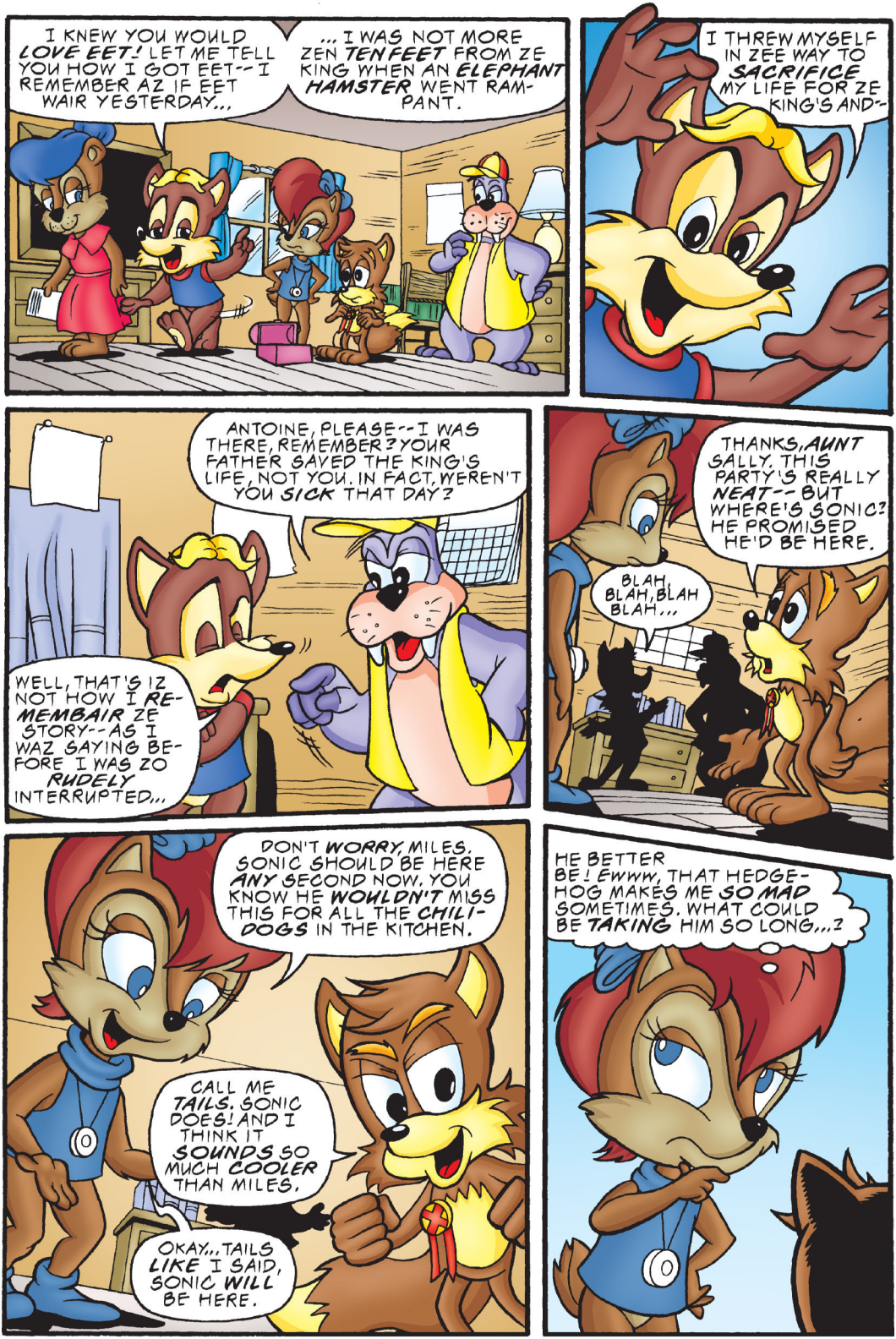
WAY PAST COOL! LOOK AT THIS PLACE!
IT'S A HUGE, UNDISCOVERED LIMESTONE CAVERN!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MILES?
YES...I'M STILL A LITTLE DIZZY...
WHEN MY TAILS STOPPED SPINNING SO FAST, I GAINED A LITTLE FLIGHT CONTROL. I TRIED TO LAND ON THAT TREE STUMP, ONLY IT'S HOLLOW AND I FELL THROUGH.
WHEEEEE!
LOOK OVER THERE! THERE'S AN UNDERGROUND AQUIFER*! THIS WOULD MAKE A GREAT SECRET CLUBHOUSE!
*ROCK FORMATION--EDITOR

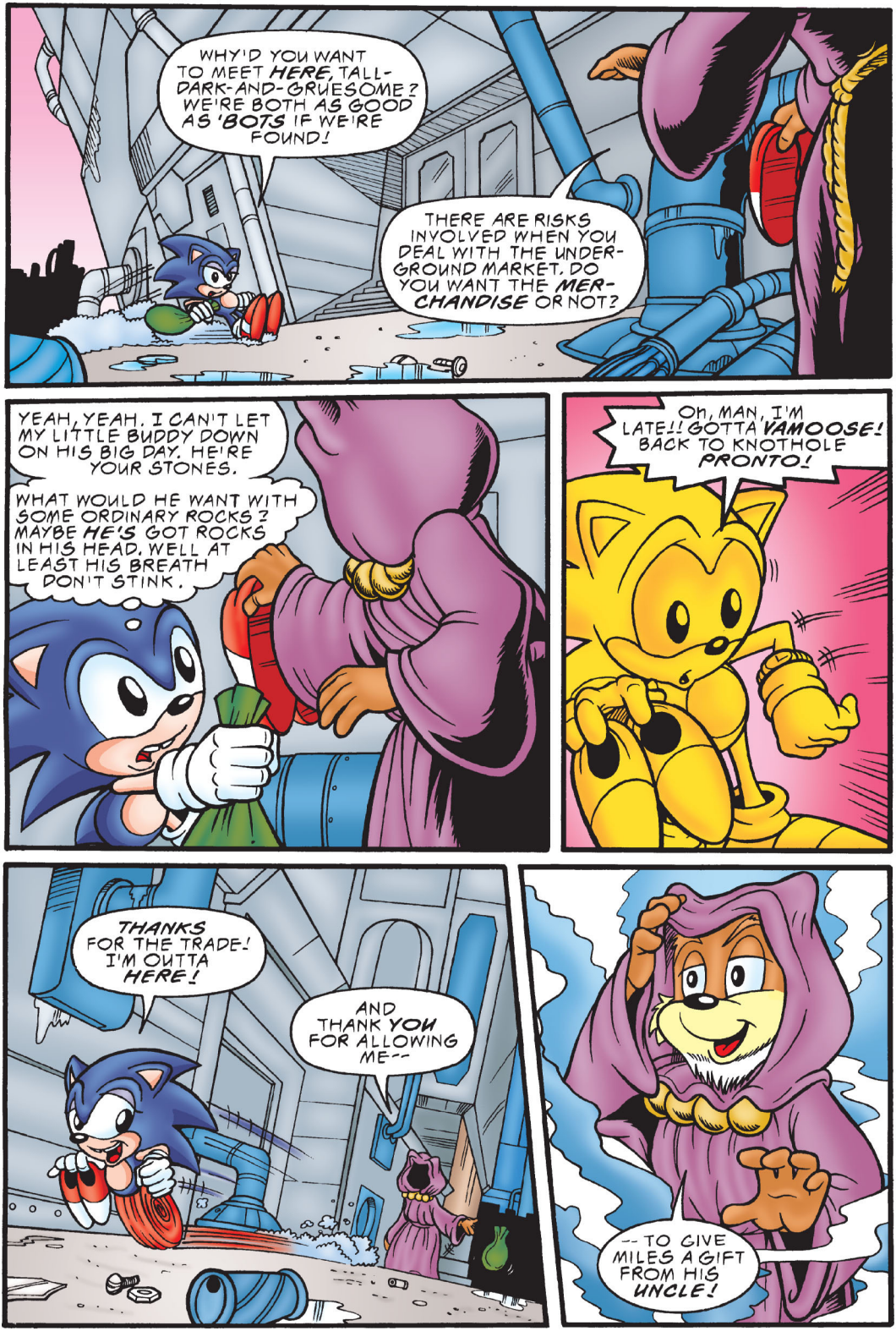

YES IT WOULD, ROTOR. BUT NOT A CLUBHOUSE--A SECRET HEADQUARTERS.
EXCELLENT! WE'LL CALL OURSELVES "THE SONIC SQUAD!"
NAH--I LIKE "BOOMER'S BOMBERS" OR "ROTOR'S--"
NO... WE'LL BE... "THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS!"
OR "FOX POPULI?"
'OW ABOUT "ZEE FANTASTIC FIVE?"
"FREEDOM FIGHTERS"? THAT'S A LITTLE EXTREME, DON'T YOU THINK?
NOT WHEN YOU CONSIDER WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING LATELY. MY FATHER'S DISAPPEARANCE, FOR EXAMPLE.
LOOK, I'M NOT AT LIBERTY TO DISCUSS EVERYTHING I'VE LEARNED FROM JULAYLA AND OTHER ROYAL SOURCES WITH YOU GUYS, BUT I'M VERY SURE ABOUT ONE THING--
--THE WINDS OF CHANGE ARE ABOUT TO SWEEP OVER MOBIUS AND I'M GOING TO NEED SOME CLEVER AND RESOURCEFUL FRIENDS I CAN COUNT ON IN A CRISIS.
WHAT DO YOU SAY, FELLAS? HAVE I GOT ANY VOLUNTEERS?
"ZEE FREEDOM FIGHTAIRS" IT EES!
NOT 'FIGHTAIRS'-- FIGHTERS!
WHATEVER.
GOOD! BECAUSE I ALREADY HAVE A MISSION FOR US--
WE'RE WITH YOU ALL THE WAY, SAL!

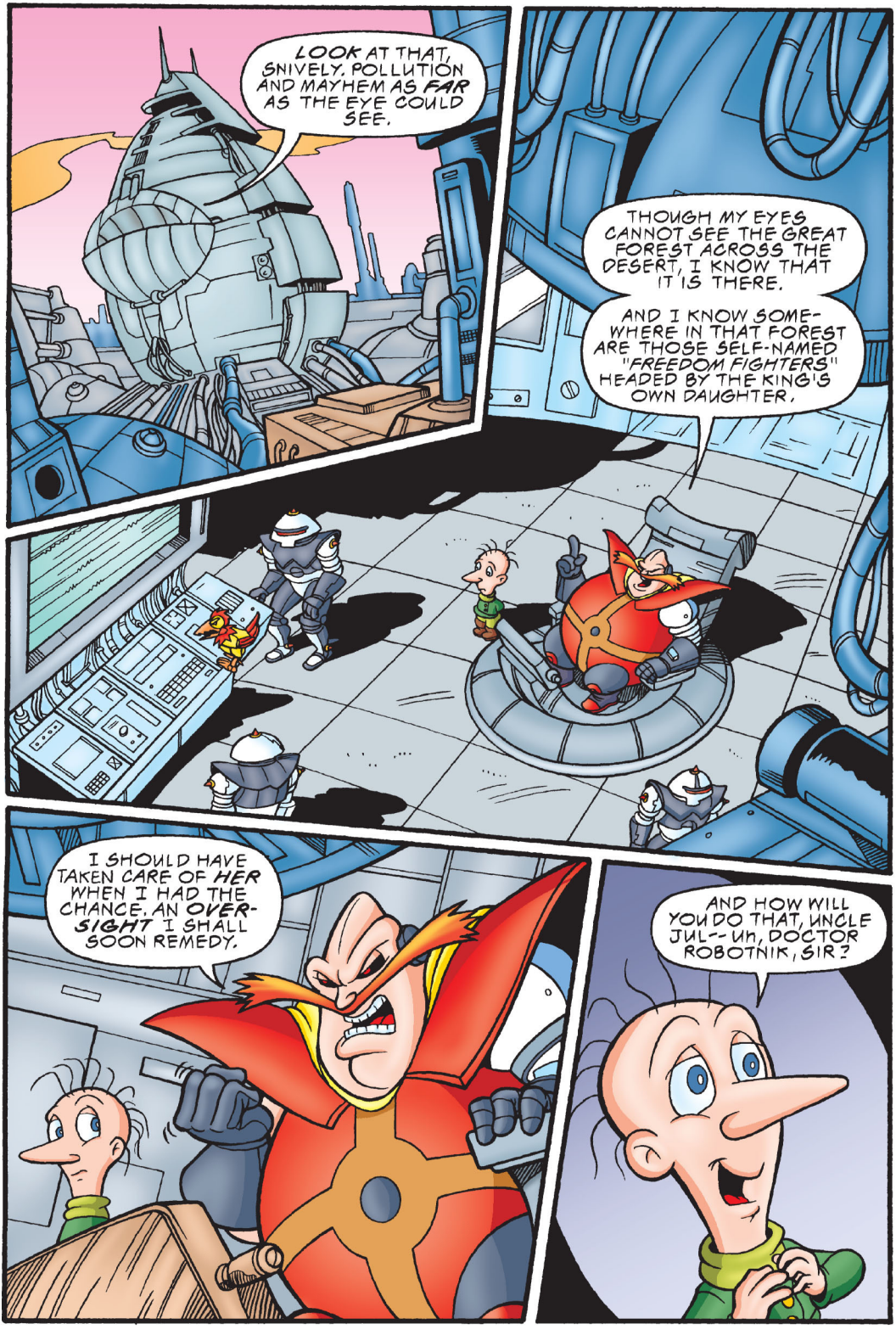

--GETTING OUT OF HERE!
Hmmm--I SEE YOUR POINT.
I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
I'M PRETTY SURE I CAN CONTROL MY FLYING ABILITY NOW. I'LL GO UP AND OUT THROUGH THAT TREE TRUNK AND DROP DOWN A STRONG VINE SO YOU CAN ALL CLIMB OUT!
GOOD THINKING, MILES!
NOT MILES, SAL--
TAILS
AND SO IT BEGINS. ALTHOUGH THESE YOUNGSTERS CANNOT IMAGINE THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS THAT AWAIT THEM, SOMEHOW THEY KNOW THEY HAVE TAKEN THE FIRST STEP TOWARD MATURITY THIS DAY.
THE FIVE FRIENDS WHO HAVE FORMED THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS WILL GO ON TO PRESERVE, PROTECT AND DEFEND THE INTEGRITY OF PLANET MOBIUS FROM MULTIPLE MEGALOMANIAC MENACES!
LET US WISH THEM WELL.
THE END

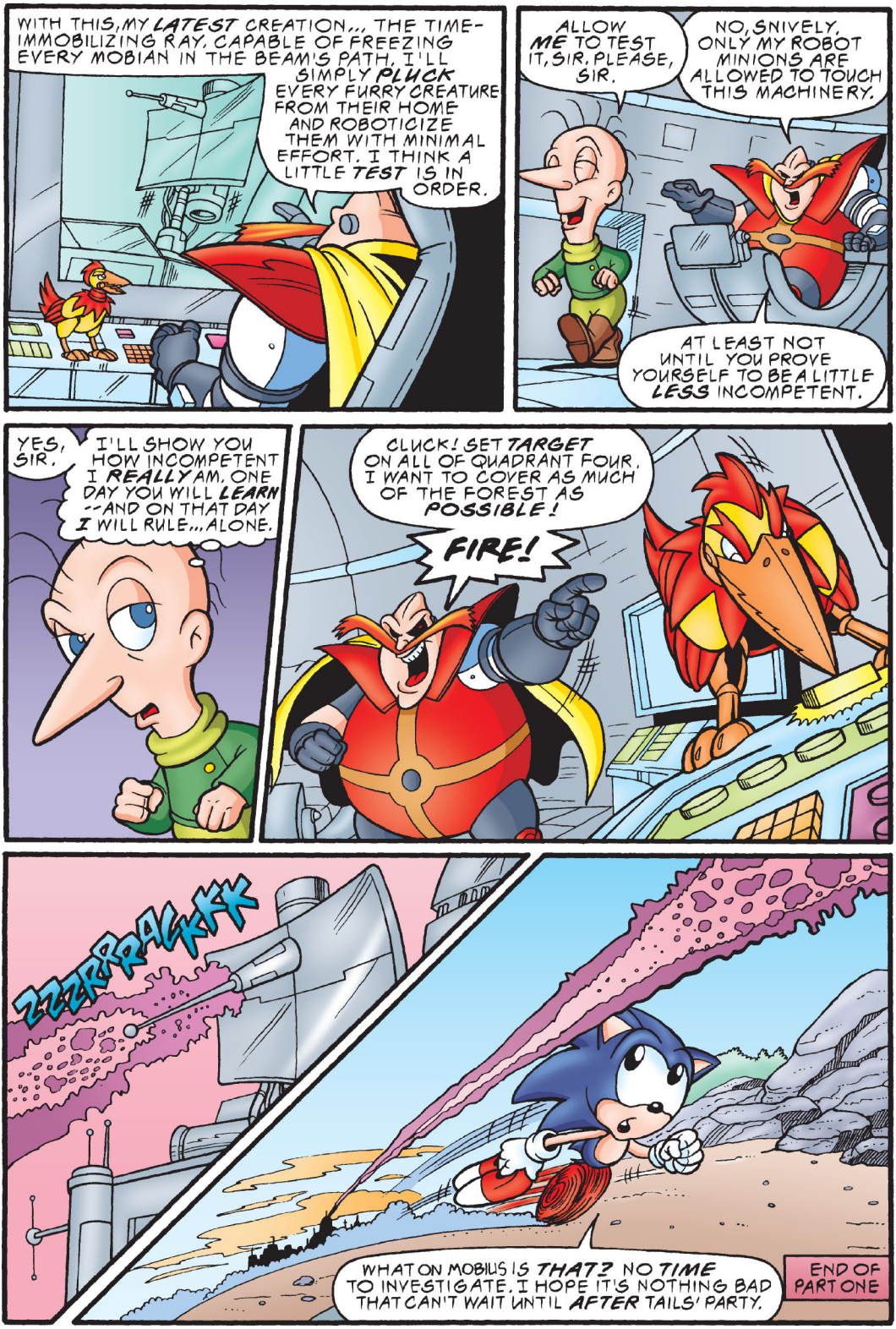

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
PRESENTS
STOP... SONIC TIME!
PART 1
WHAT'S IT LIKE TO BEAT UP ROBOTNIK?
WHOA, WHOA WHOA! ONE AT A TIME, DUDES AND DUDETTES!
HOW FAST CAN YOU RUN?
DIDJA PUNCH HIM IN THE NOSE?
WHERE CAN I GET SHOES LIKE YOURS?

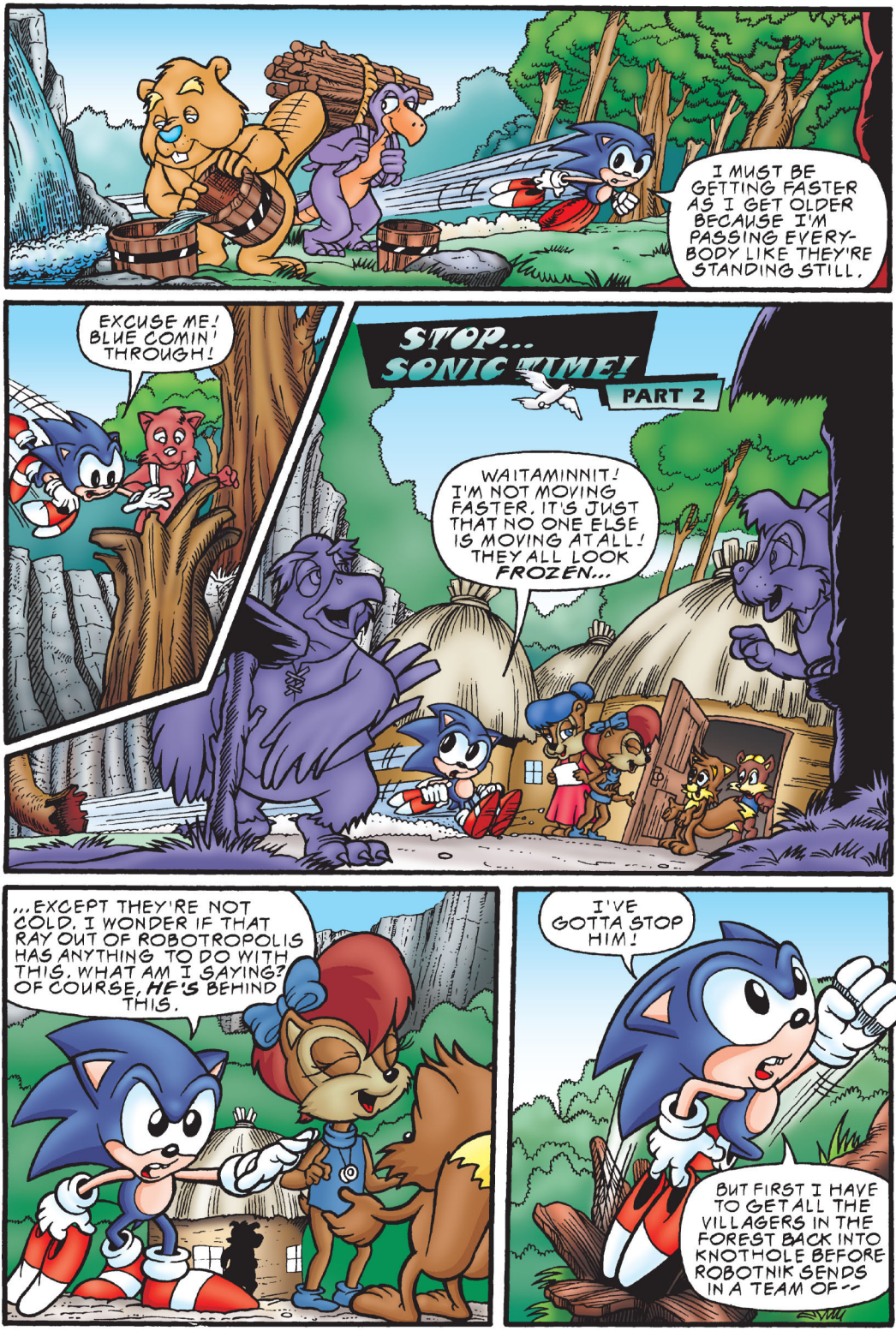

MY UNCLE CHUCK MADE THESE SHOES FOR ME BECAUSE OF MY SPEED. YOU SEE, I ALWAYS USED TO BURN THE RUBBER SOLES OF ANY SNEAKER I WORE. SO HE CREATED THEM FROM THE ENERGY OF THE POWER RINGS. THAT WAY NO MATTER HOW FAST I RUN, I WON'T WEAR THEM OUT.
SHOES LIKE MINE ARE ONE OF A KIND, SO THEY CAN'T BE BOUGHT OR FOUND ANYPLACE ELSE. THE CLOSEST ONES TO THESE WERE THE ONES I GOT FOR TAILS...
...AND THAT'S A STORY ALL IN ITSELF! DO YOU WANT TO HEAR IT?
YEAH!
OKAY--HERE WE GO!
"...IT WAS A FEW YEARS AGO--
"--TAILS WAS BEING TUTORED BY ROSIE AND HAD GOTTEN STRAIGHT A'S ON HIS REPORT CARD.
WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU, MILES!
TAILS
YEAH, WE ARE. YOU DID MUCH BETTER THAN ME WHEN I TOOK IT. I ONLY GOT C'S AND D'S.
'ELLO, LITTLE ONE. I 'AVE 'ERE THE BEST GIFT IN ZE WORLD FOR YOU!
ZIS IZ FOR YOU. Ahhh! I KNOW YOU ARE IMPRESSED, YES?
WOW! LOOK HOW IT SHINES!
IT SURE IS PRETTY, ISN'T IT?
YEAH, IT'S COOL! THANKS ANTOINE!

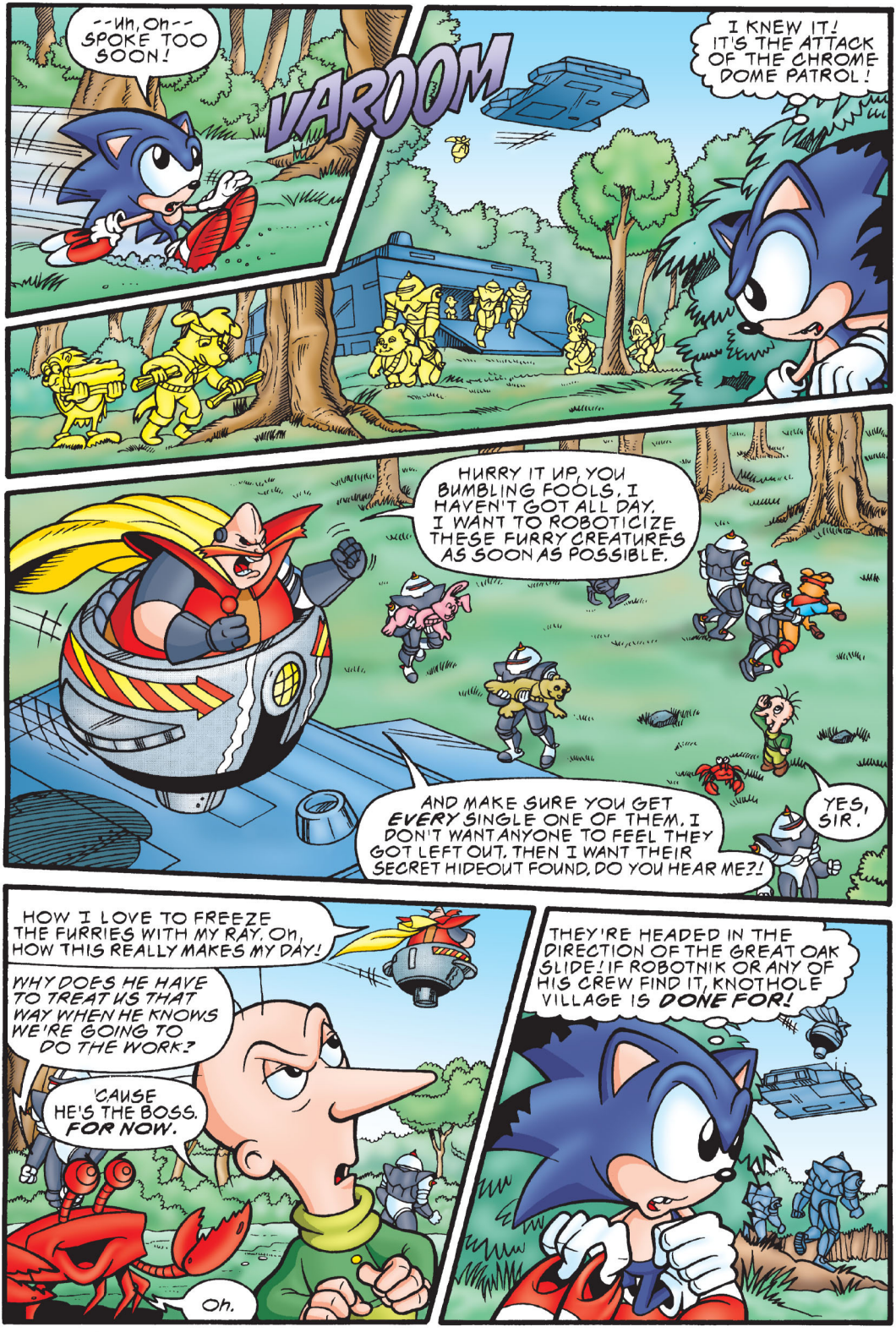

I KNEW YOU WOULD LOVE EET! LET ME TELL YOU HOW I GOT EET-- I REMEMBER AZ IF EET WAIR YESTERDAY...
... I WAS NOT MORE ZEN TEN FEET FROM ZE KING WHEN AN ELEPHANT HAMSTER WENT RAMPANT.
I THREW MYSELF IN ZEE WAY TO SACRIFICE MY LIFE FOR ZE KING'S AND--
ANTOINE, PLEASE--I WAS THERE, REMEMBER? YOUR FATHER SAVED THE KING'S LIFE, NOT YOU. IN FACT, WEREN'T YOU SICK THAT DAY?
WELL, THAT'S IZ NOT HOW I REMEMBAIR ZE STORY--AS I WAZ SAYING BEFORE I WAS ZO RUDELY INTERRUPTED...
THANKS, AUNT SALLY. THIS PARTY'S REALLY NEAT-- BUT WHERE'S SONIC? HE PROMISED HE'D BE HERE.
BLAH, BLAH, BLAH BLAH...
DON'T WORRY, MILES, SONIC SHOULD BE HERE ANY SECOND NOW. YOU KNOW HE WOULDN'T MISS THIS FOR ALL THE CHILI-DOGS IN THE KITCHEN.
CALL ME TAILS. SONIC DOES! AND I THINK IT SOUNDS SO MUCH COOLER THAN MILES.
OKAY... TAILS LIKE I SAID, SONIC WILL BE HERE.
HE BETTER BE! EWWW, THAT HEDGEHOG MAKES ME SO MAD SOMETIMES. WHAT COULD BE TAKING HIM SO LONG...?

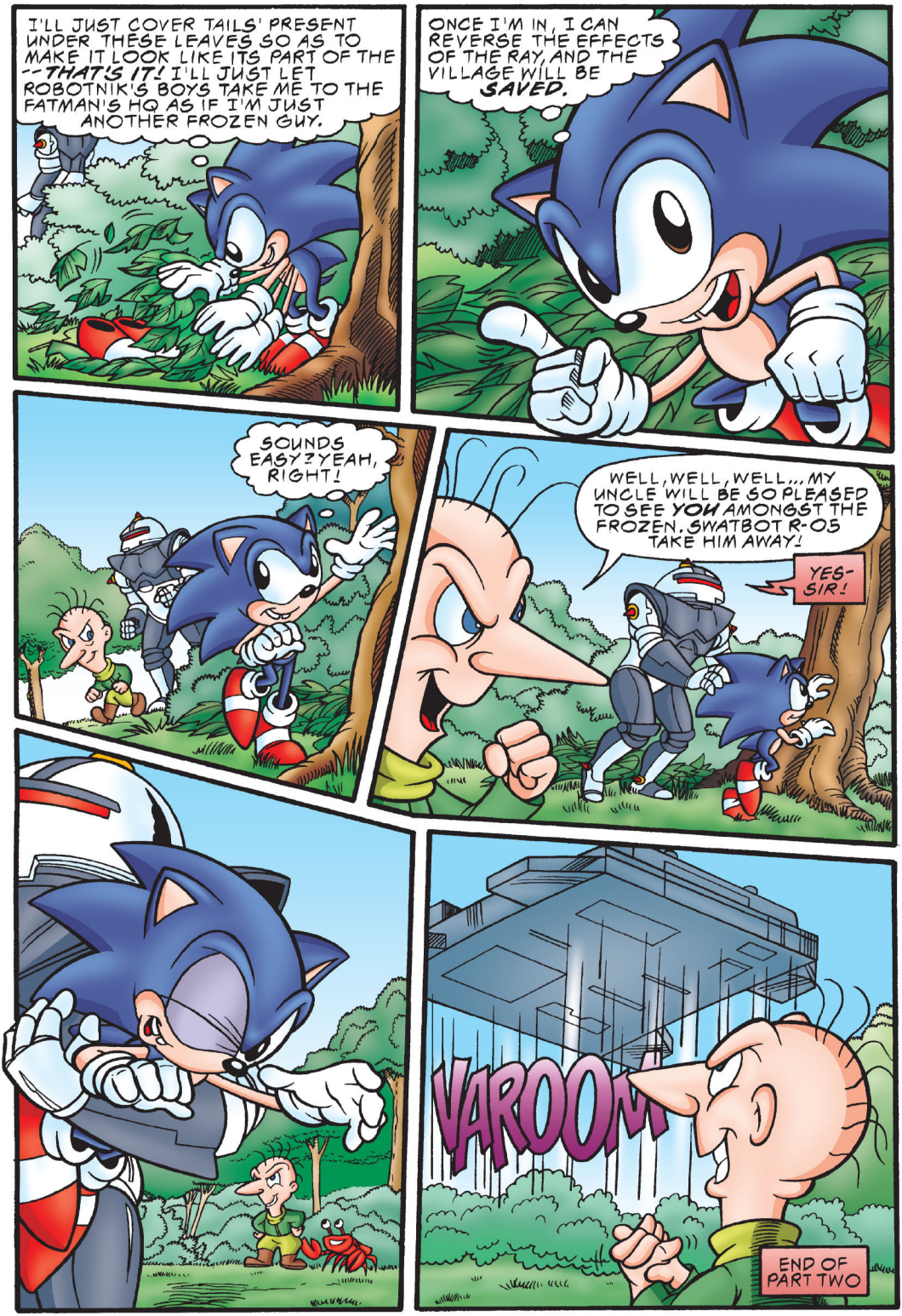

WHY'D YOU WANT TO MEET HERE, TALL-DARK-AND-GRUESOME? WE'RE BOTH AS GOOD AS 'BOTS IF WE'RE FOUND!
THERE ARE RISKS INVOLVED WHEN YOU DEAL WITH THE UNDER-GROUND MARKET. DO YOU WANT THE MER-CHANDISE OR NOT?
YEAH, YEAH. I CAN'T LET MY LITTLE BUDDY DOWN ON HIS BIG DAY. HE'RE YOUR STONES.
WHAT WOULD HE WANT WITH SOME ORDINARY ROCKS? MAYBE HE'S GOT ROCKS IN HIS HEAD. WELL AT LEAST HIS BREATH DON'T STINK.
OH, MAN, I'M LATE!! GOTTA VAMOOSE! BACK TO KNOTHOLE PRONTO!
THANKS FOR THE TRADE! I'M OUTTA HERE!
AND THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME--
-- TO GIVE MILES A GIFT FROM HIS UNCLE!

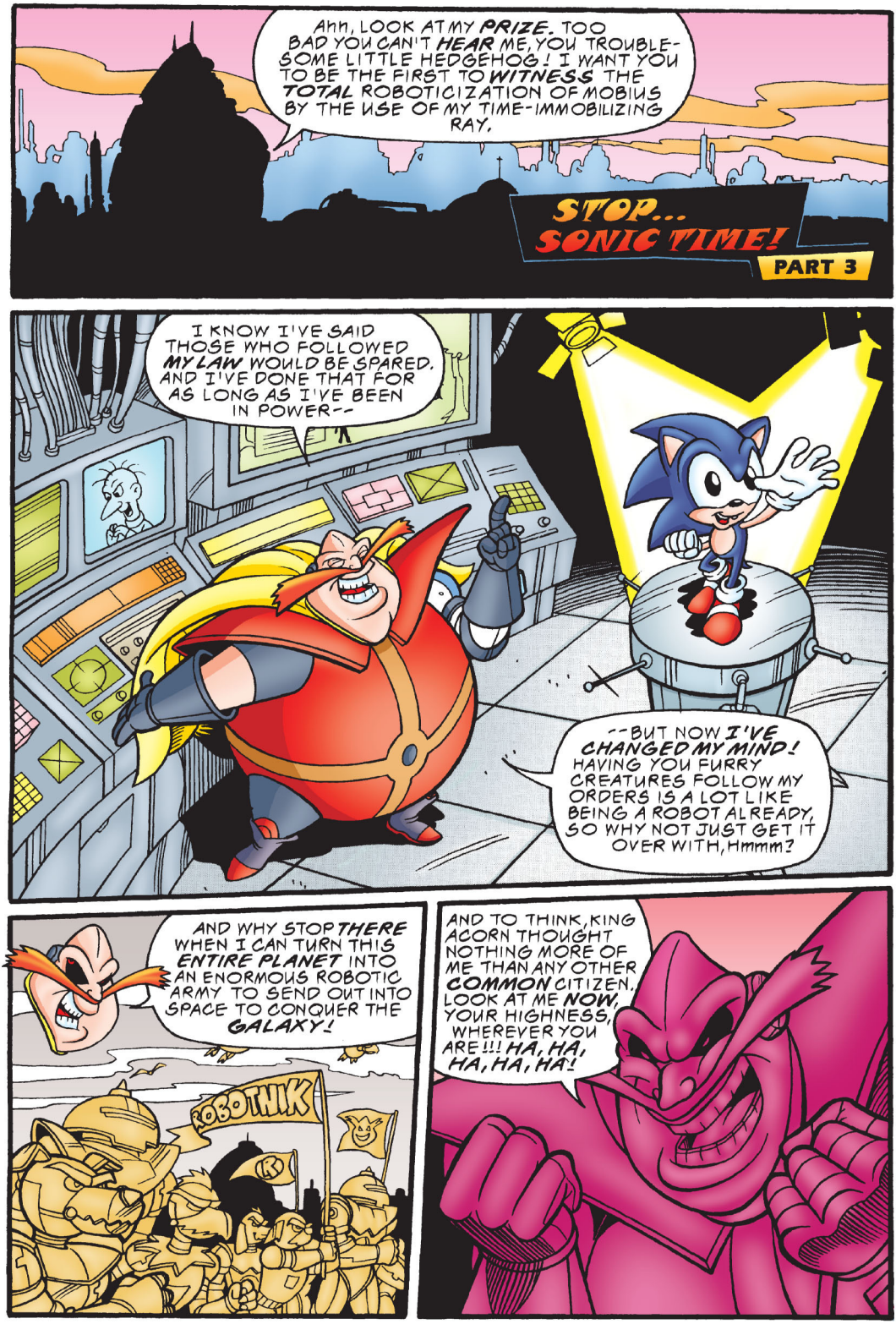

LOOK AT THAT, SNIVELY. POLLUTION AND MAYHEM AS FAR AS THE EYE COULD SEE.
THOUGH MY EYES CANNOT SEE THE GREAT FOREST ACROSS THE DESERT, I KNOW THAT IT IS THERE.
AND I KNOW SOMEWHERE IN THAT FOREST ARE THOSE SELF-NAMED "FREEDOM FIGHTERS" HEADED BY THE KING'S OWN DAUGHTER.
I SHOULD HAVE TAKEN CARE OF HER WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE. AN OVERSIGHT I SHALL SOON REMEDY.
AND HOW WILL YOU DO THAT, UNCLE JUL-- UH, DOCTOR ROBOTNIK, SIR?

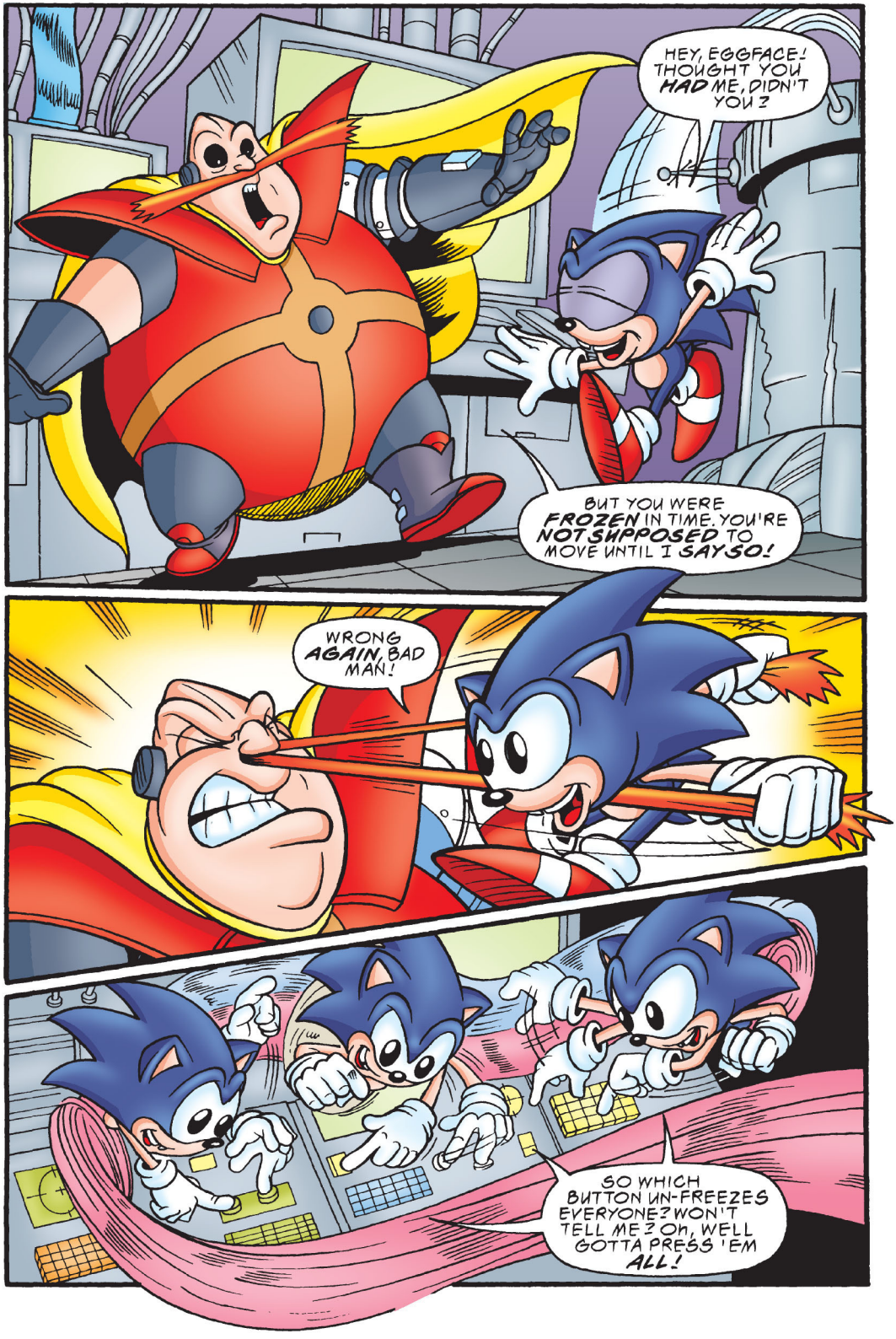

WITH THIS, MY LATEST CREATION... THE TIME-IMMOBILIZING RAY, CAPABLE OF FREEZING EVERY MOBIAN IN THE BEAM'S PATH. I'LL SIMPLY PLUCK EVERY FURRY CREATURE FROM THEIR HOME AND ROBOTICIZE THEM WITH MINIMAL EFFORT. I THINK A LITTLE TEST IS IN ORDER.
ALLOW ME TO TEST IT, SIR, PLEASE, SIR.
NO, SNIVELY, ONLY MY ROBOT MINIONS ARE ALLOWED TO TOUCH THIS MACHINERY.
AT LEAST NOT UNTIL YOU PROVE YOURSELF TO BE A LITTLE LESS INCOMPETENT.
YES, SIR.
I'LL SHOW YOU HOW INCOMPETENT I REALLY AM. ONE DAY YOU WILL LEARN --AND ON THAT DAY I WILL RULE... ALONE.
CLUCK! SET TARGET ON ALL OF QUADRANT FOUR. I WANT TO COVER AS MUCH OF THE FOREST AS POSSIBLE!
FIRE!
ZZZRRRAGKK
WHAT ON MOBIUS IS THAT? NO TIME TO INVESTIGATE. I HOPE IT'S NOTHING BAD THAT CAN'T WAIT UNTIL AFTER TAILS' PARTY.
END OF PART ONE

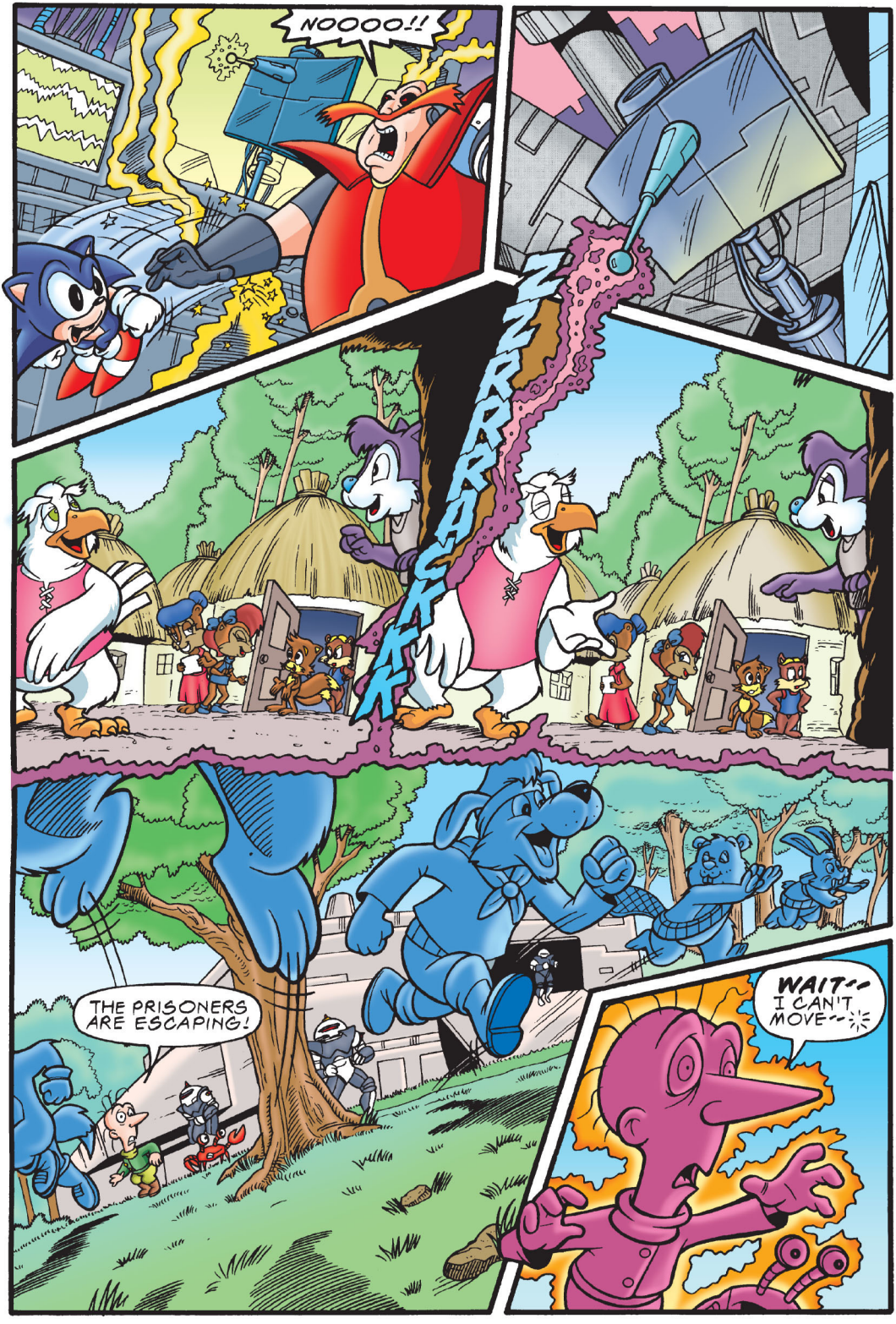

I MUST BE GETTING FASTER AS I GET OLDER BECAUSE I'M PASSING EVERY-BODY LIKE THEY'RE STANDING STILL.
EXCUSE ME! BLUE COMIN' THROUGH!
STOP... SONIC TIME!
PART 2
WAITAMINNIT! I'M NOT MOVING FASTER, IT'S JUST THAT NO ONE ELSE IS MOVING AT ALL! THEY ALL LOOK FROZEN...
...EXCEPT THEY'RE NOT COLD. I WONDER IF THAT RAY OUT OF ROBOTROPOLIS HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS. WHAT AM I SAYING? OF COURSE, HE'S BEHIND THIS.
I'VE GOTTA STOP HIM!
BUT FIRST I HAVE TO GET ALL THE VILLAGERS IN THE FOREST BACK INTO KNOTHOLE BEFORE ROBOTNIK SENDS IN A TEAM OF--

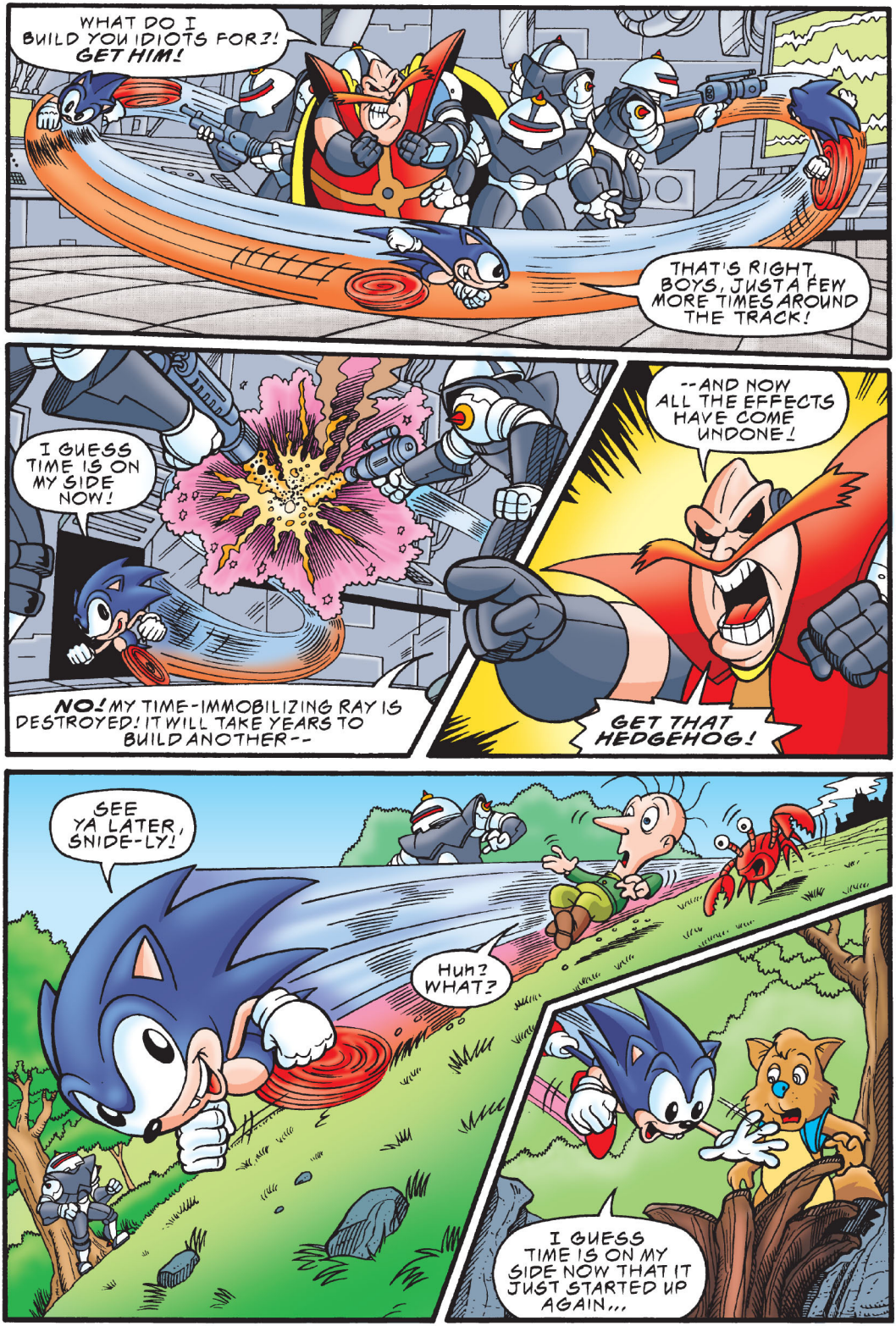

--Uh, Oh--
SPOKE TOO SOON!
VAROOM
I KNEW IT! IT'S THE ATTACK OF THE CHROME DOME PATROL!
HURRY IT UP, YOU BUMBLING FOOLS. I HAVEN'T GOT ALL DAY. I WANT TO ROBOTICIZE THESE FURRY CREATURES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
AND MAKE SURE YOU GET EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM. I DON'T WANT ANYONE TO FEEL THEY GOT LEFT OUT. THEN I WANT THEIR SECRET HIDEOUT FOUND. DO YOU HEAR ME?!
YES, SIR.
HOW I LOVE TO FREEZE THE FURRIES WITH MY RAY. Oh, HOW THIS REALLY MAKES MY DAY!
WHY DOES HE HAVE TO TREAT US THAT WAY WHEN HE KNOWS WE'RE GOING TO DO THE WORK?
'CAUSE HE'S THE BOSS. FOR NOW.
Oh.
THEY'RE HEADED IN THE DIRECTION OF THE GREAT OAK SLIDE! IF ROBOTNIK OR ANY OF HIS CREW FIND IT, KNOTHOLE VILLAGE IS DONE FOR!

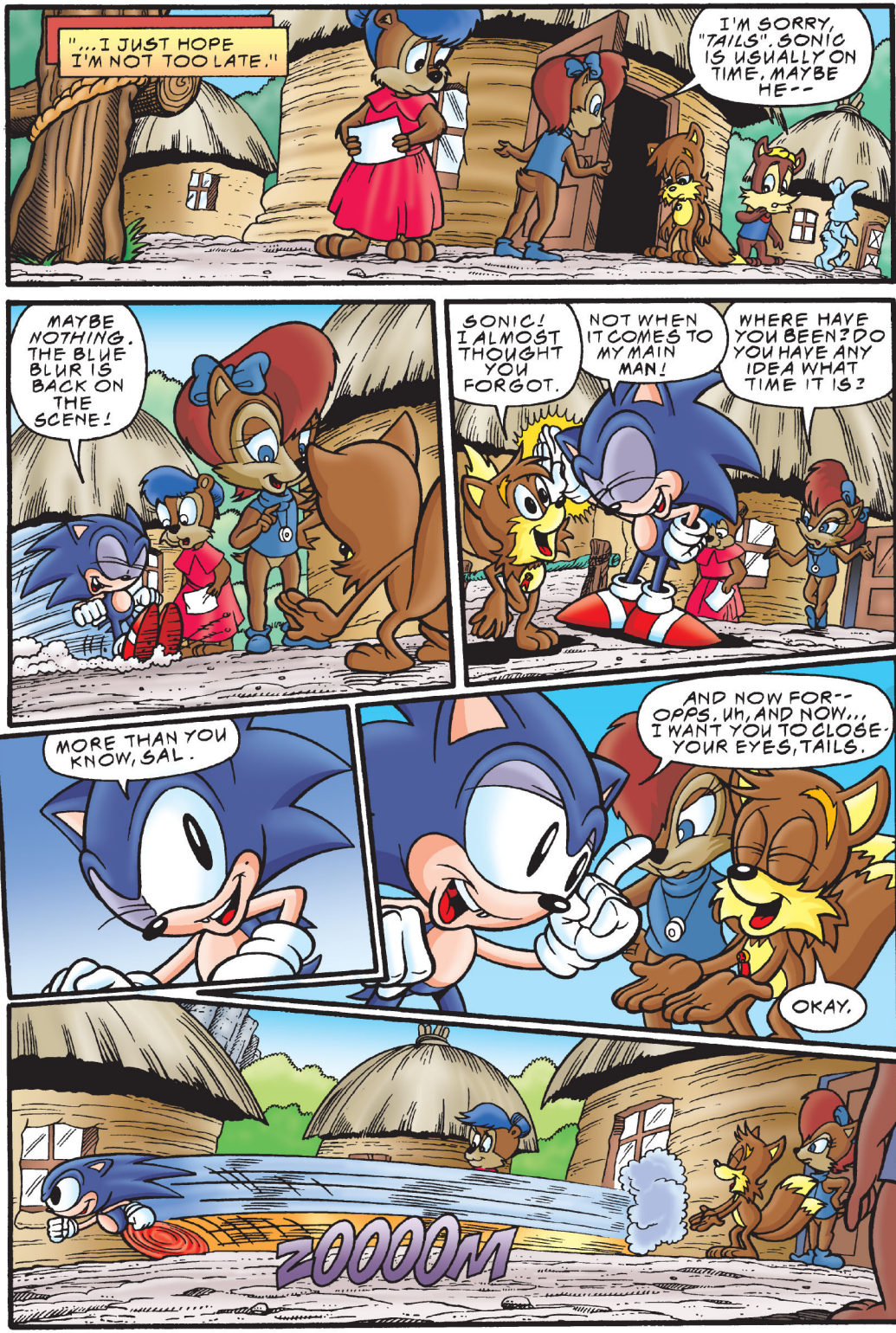

I'LL JUST COVER TAILS' PRESENT UNDER THESE LEAVES SO AS TO MAKE IT LOOK LIKE ITS PART OF THE --THAT'S IT! I'LL JUST LET ROBOTNIK'S BOYS TAKE ME TO THE FATMAN'S HQ AS IF I'M JUST ANOTHER FROZEN GUY.
ONCE I'M IN, I CAN REVERSE THE EFFECTS OF THE RAY, AND THE VILLAGE WILL BE SAVED.
SOUNDS EASY? YEAH, RIGHT!
WELL, WELL, WELL... MY UNCLE WILL BE SO PLEASED TO SEE YOU AMONGST THE FROZEN. SWATBOT R-05 TAKE HIM AWAY!
YES-SIR!
VAROOM
END OF PART TWO

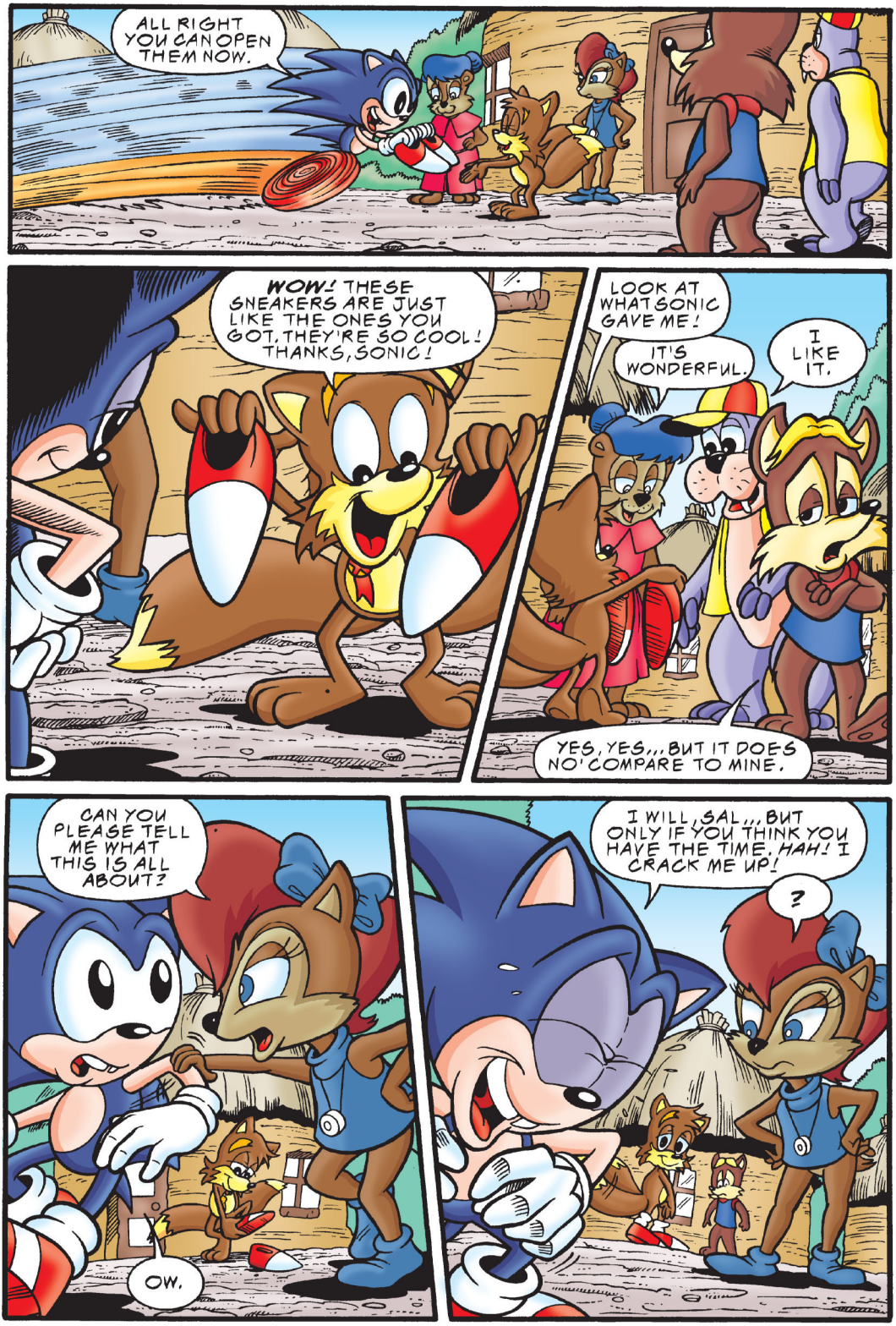

Ahh, LOOK AT MY PRIZE. TOO BAD YOU CAN'T HEAR ME, YOU TROUBLESOME LITTLE HEDGEHOG! I WANT YOU TO BE THE FIRST TO WITNESS THE TOTAL ROBOTICIZATION OF MOBIUS BY THE USE OF MY TIME-IMMOBILIZING RAY.
STOP... SONIC TIME!
PART 3
I KNOW I'VE SAID THOSE WHO FOLLOWED MY LAW WOULD BE SPARED, AND I'VE DONE THAT FOR AS LONG AS I'VE BEEN IN POWER--
--BUT NOW I'VE CHANGED MY MIND! HAVING YOU FURRY CREATURES FOLLOW MY ORDERS IS A LOT LIKE BEING A ROBOT ALREADY, SO WHY NOT JUST GET IT OVER WITH, Hmmm?
AND WHY STOP THERE WHEN I CAN TURN THIS ENTIRE PLANET INTO AN ENORMOUS ROBOTIC ARMY TO SEND OUT INTO SPACE TO CONQUER THE GALAXY!
ROBOTNIK
AND TO THINK, KING ACORN THOUGHT NOTHING MORE OF ME THAN ANY OTHER COMMON CITIZEN. LOOK AT ME NOW, YOUR HIGHNESS, WHEREVER YOU ARE!!! HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!

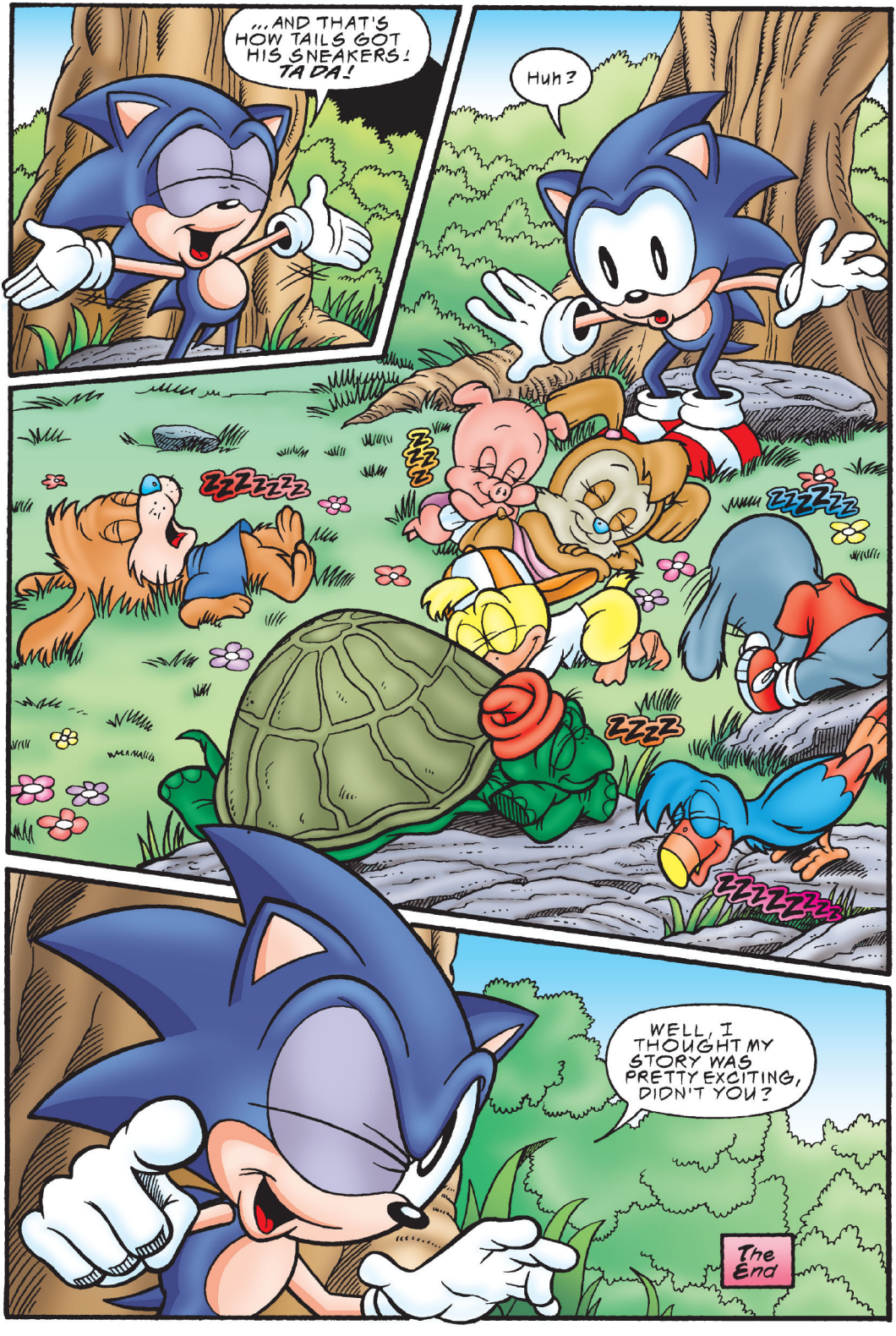

HEY, EGGFACE! THOUGHT YOU *HAD* ME, DIDN'T YOU?
BUT YOU WERE *FROZEN* IN TIME. YOU'RE *NOT SUPPOSED* TO MOVE UNTIL I *SAY SO!*
WRONG *AGAIN*, BAD MAN!
SO WHICH BUTTON UN-FREEZES EVERYONE? WON'T TELL ME? OH, WELL GOTTA PRESS 'EM *ALL!*


NOOOO!!
ZZRRRRACKKK
THE PRISONERS ARE ESCAPING!
WAIT-- I CAN'T MOVE--


WHAT DO I BUILD YOU IDIOTS FOR?! GET HIM!
THAT'S RIGHT, BOYS, JUST A FEW MORE TIMES AROUND THE TRACK!
I GUESS TIME IS ON MY SIDE NOW!
NO! MY TIME-IMMOBILIZING RAY IS DESTROYED! IT WILL TAKE YEARS TO BUILD ANOTHER--
--AND NOW ALL THE EFFECTS HAVE COME UNDONE!
GET THAT HEDGEHOG!
SEE YA LATER, SNIDE-LY!
Huh? WHAT?
I GUESS TIME IS ON MY SIDE NOW THAT IT JUST STARTED UP AGAIN...


"...I JUST HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE."
I'M SORRY, "TAILS". SONIC IS USUALLY ON TIME. MAYBE HE--
MAYBE NOTHING. THE BLUE BLUR IS BACK ON THE SCENE!
SONIC! I ALMOST THOUGHT YOU FORGOT.
NOT WHEN IT COMES TO MY MAIN MAN!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT TIME IT IS?
MORE THAN YOU KNOW, SAL.
AND NOW FOR-- OPPS. UH, AND NOW... I WANT YOU TO CLOSE YOUR EYES, TAILS.
OKAY.
ZOOOOM


ALL RIGHT YOU CAN OPEN THEM NOW.
WOW! THESE SNEAKERS ARE JUST LIKE THE ONES YOU GOT, THEY'RE SO COOL! THANKS, SONIC!
LOOK AT WHAT SONIC GAVE ME!
IT'S WONDERFUL.
I LIKE IT.
YES, YES... BUT IT DOES NO COMPARE TO MINE.
CAN YOU PLEASE TELL ME WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT?
OW.
I WILL, SAL... BUT ONLY IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE THE TIME. HAH! I CRACK ME UP!
?


...AND THAT'S HOW TAILS GOT HIS SNEAKERS! TA DA!
Huh?
ZZZZZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZZZZ
ZZZZ
ZZZZZZZZZ
WELL, I THOUGHT MY STORY WAS PRETTY EXCITING, DIDN'T YOU?
The End

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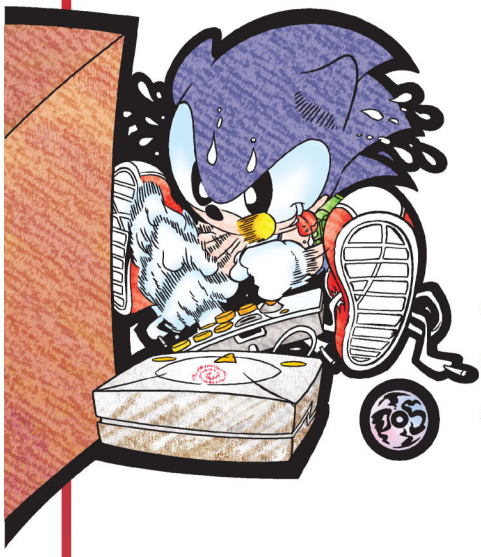

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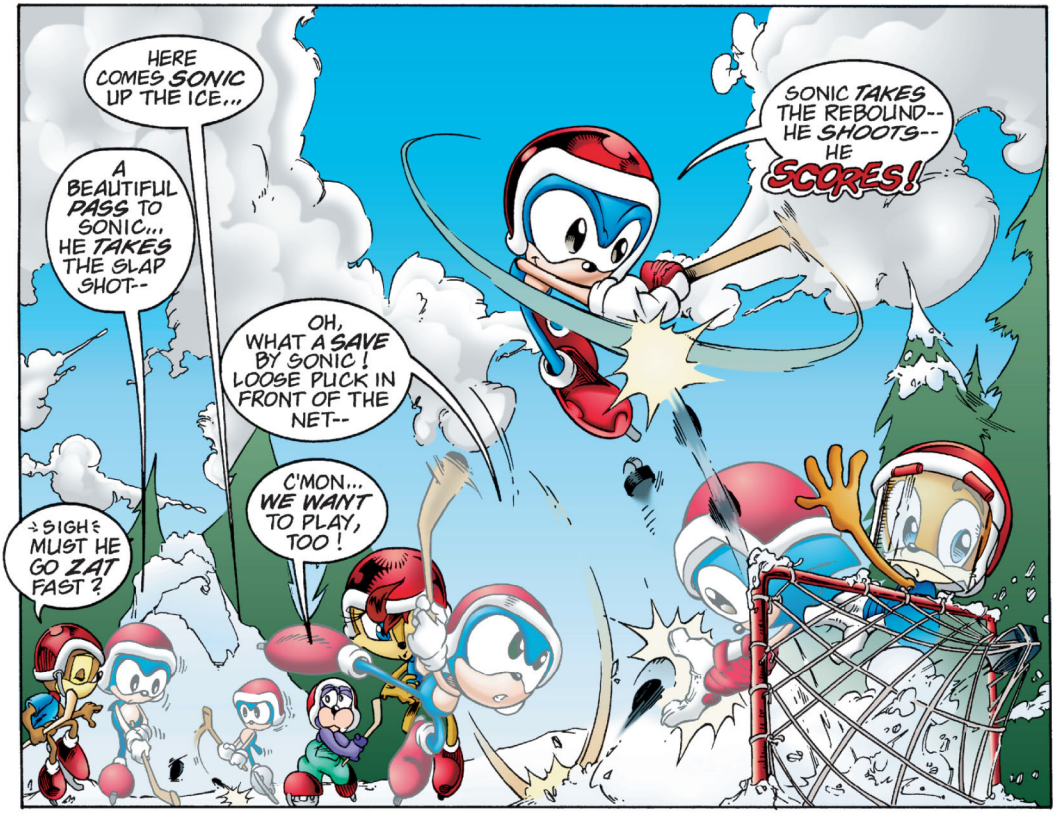
SALLY MEETS
JULIAN & KING A

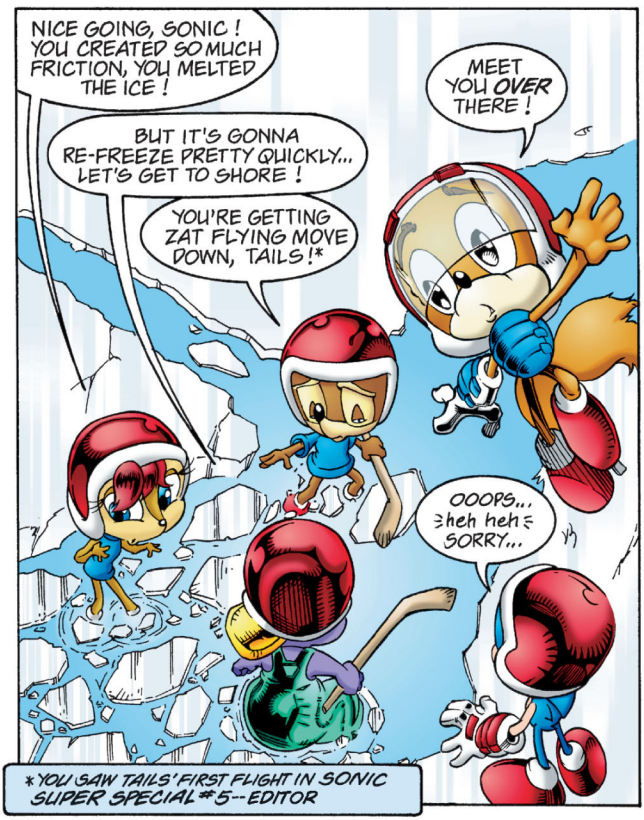
SONIC KIDS™ in:
ZONEWARD BOUND
PART ONE
ONE WINTER'S MORNING, IN KNOTHOLE VILLAGE...
WE MAKE A GREAT TEAM, SONIC--SNOW DOUBT ABOUT IT!
YOU BETCHA, LITTLE BUDDY! JUST KEEP SPINNING THOSE TAILS 'TIL ANTOINE CRIES "UNCLE!"
ALORS! ZIS IS MY WATERLOO!
YOU'RE A WIZARD WHEN IT COMES TO BUILDING THINGS, BOOMER!
THANKS, PRINCESS... BUT CALL ME ROTOR. I'M GETTIN' TOO OLD TO BE CALLED BOOMER ANYMORE.
BOMBS AWAY!

WAY TO GO, ROTOR!
:chuckle: HE LOOKS LIKE AN ICE CREAM SUNDAE!
HE NEEDS A CHERRY ON TOP!
:mumble: --SPUTTER-- :hmf:
ZWIPPING...
HERE, I'LL DO-OOO--WHOOPP! I SLIPPED ON THE ICE!
UH-OH... MY SHOT SAILED WIDE!
EEEEEEEEK!
OH, DEAR... YOU HIT ROSIE!
SPLOT!
ALL RIGHT, YOU YOUNG HOOLIGANS--
WAIT, ROSIE... IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!
EET IS SALLY'S 'AU PAIR!'*
I ONLY SEE ONE OF HER!
* ED. NOTE: MEANING "NANNY" IN FRENCH--EDITOR

PRINCESS SALLY, I WOULD THINK YOU'D KNOW BETTER.
I KNOW, ROSIE... ≥sniffle≤ I'M SORRY.
I WAS J-JUST ≥SOB≤ PLAYING WITH MY F-FRIENDS ≥choke≤ TO KEEP FROM TH-THINKING ABOUT--D-D-DADDY ...≥boo-hoo-hoo!≤
AH, THERE NOW, MY DEAR... I'M SORRY IF I LOST MY TEMPER...
AND WE'RE SORRY TOO, ROSIE...
BUCK UP, SALLY--WE'RE WITH YOU ALL THE WAY!
TH-THANKS! ≥sniffle≤ YOU'RE SUH-SUCH GOOD FRIENDS!
Ahh... I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
I'M SURE THE POND BY THE OLD WISHING WELL IS FROZEN OVER. WHY DON'T YOU GO SKATING? I'LL BRING A SNACK DOWN LATER, OKAY?
OKAY!

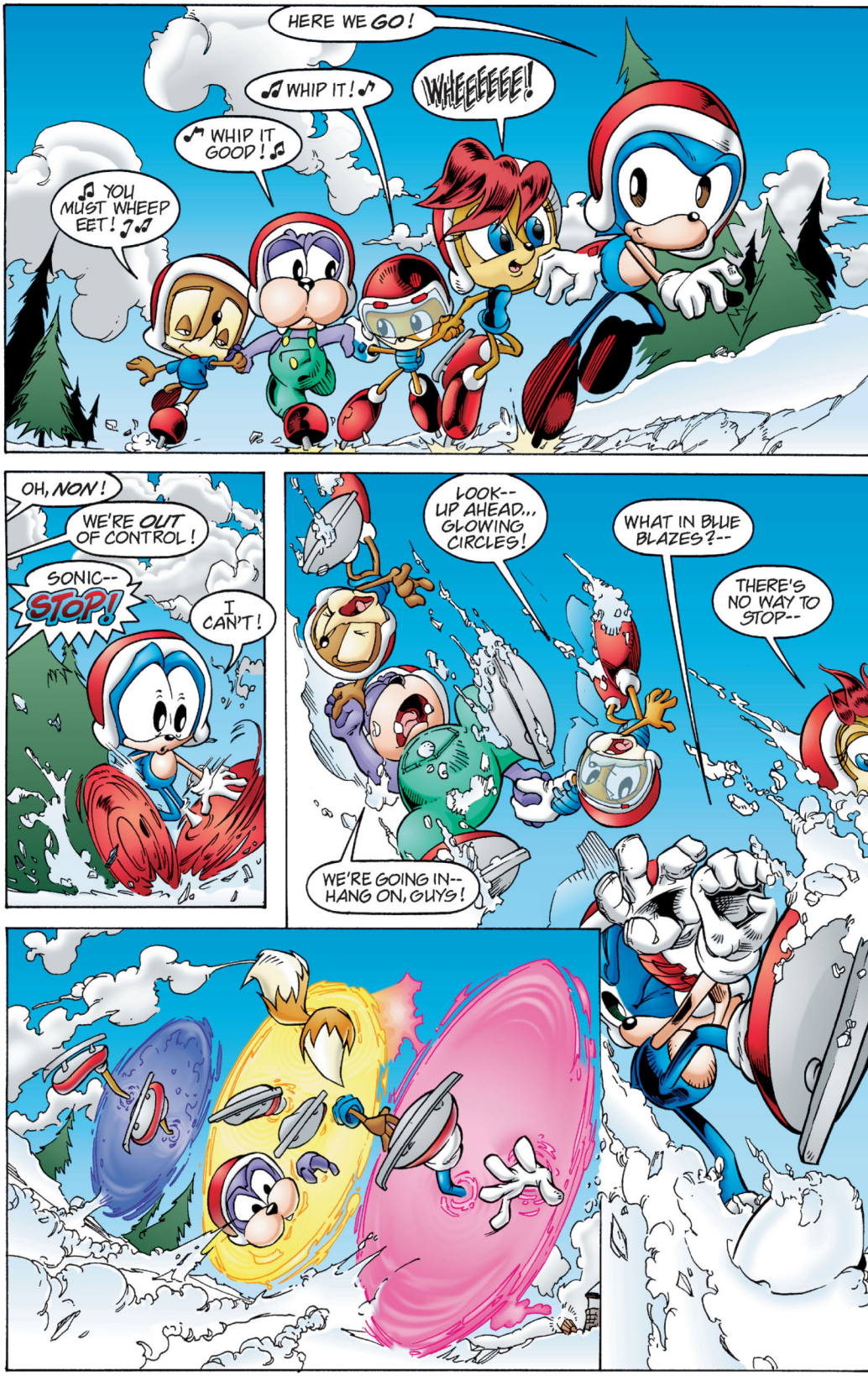

HERE COMES SONIC UP THE ICE...
A BEAUTIFUL PASS TO SONIC... HE TAKES THE SLAP SHOT--
OH, WHAT A SAVE BY SONIC! LOOSE PUCK IN FRONT OF THE NET--
C'MON... WE WANT TO PLAY, TOO!
SIGH MUST HE GO ZAT FAST?
SONIC TAKES THE REBOUND-- HE SHOOTS-- HE SCORES!

HA! IF YOU THINK THAT'S FAST, WATCH THIS!
SACRE BLEU BLUR! WHAT A SHOWOFF!
SHWOOOOSH!

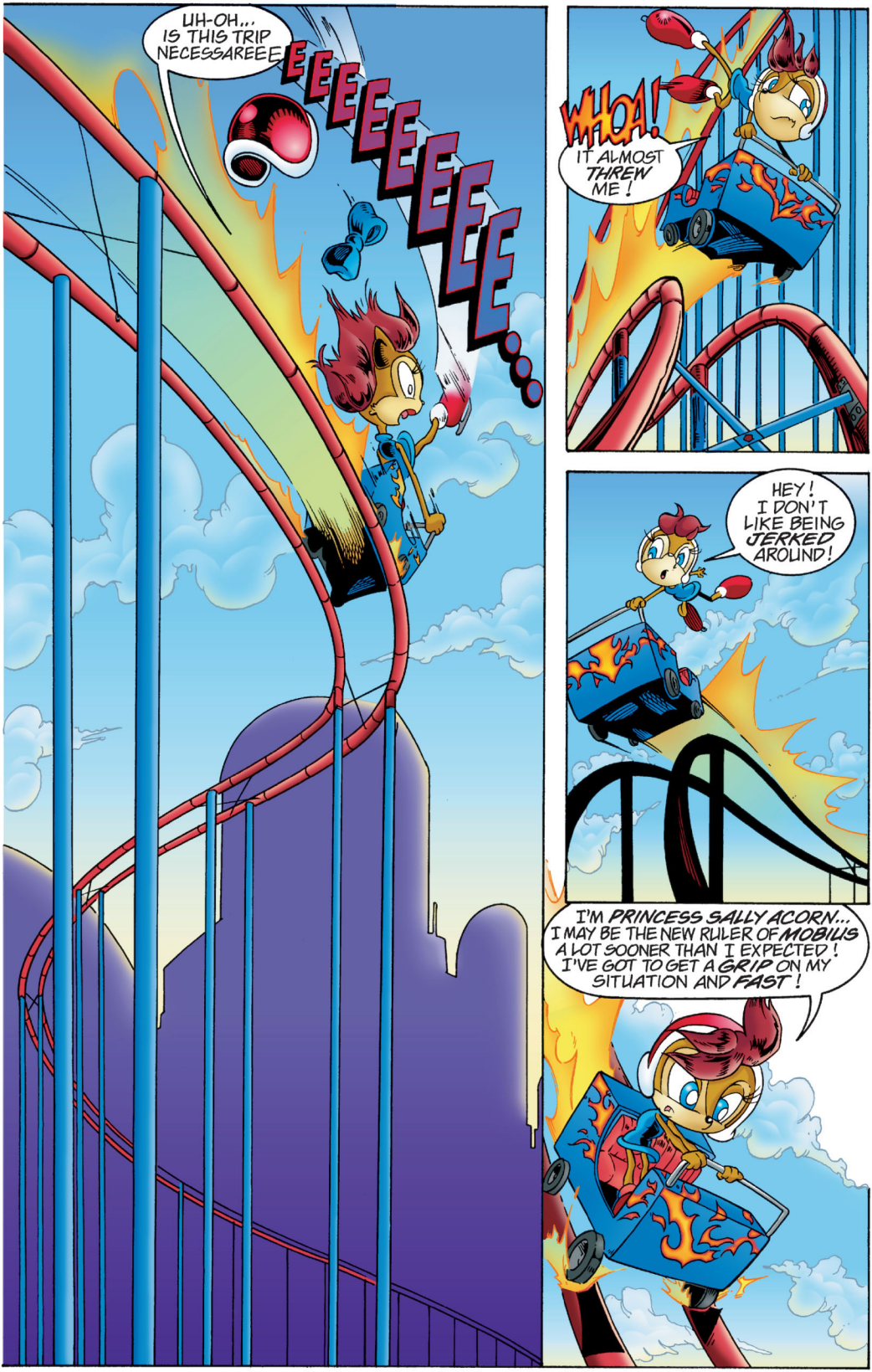

NICE GOING, SONIC! YOU CREATED SO MUCH FRICTION, YOU MELTED THE ICE!
BUT IT'S GONNA RE-FREEZE PRETTY QUICKLY... LET'S GET TO SHORE!
YOU'RE GETTING ZAT FLYING MOVE DOWN, TAILS!*
MEET YOU OVER THERE!
OOOPS... heh heh SORRY...
*YOU SAW TAILS' FIRST FLIGHT IN SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #5--EDITOR

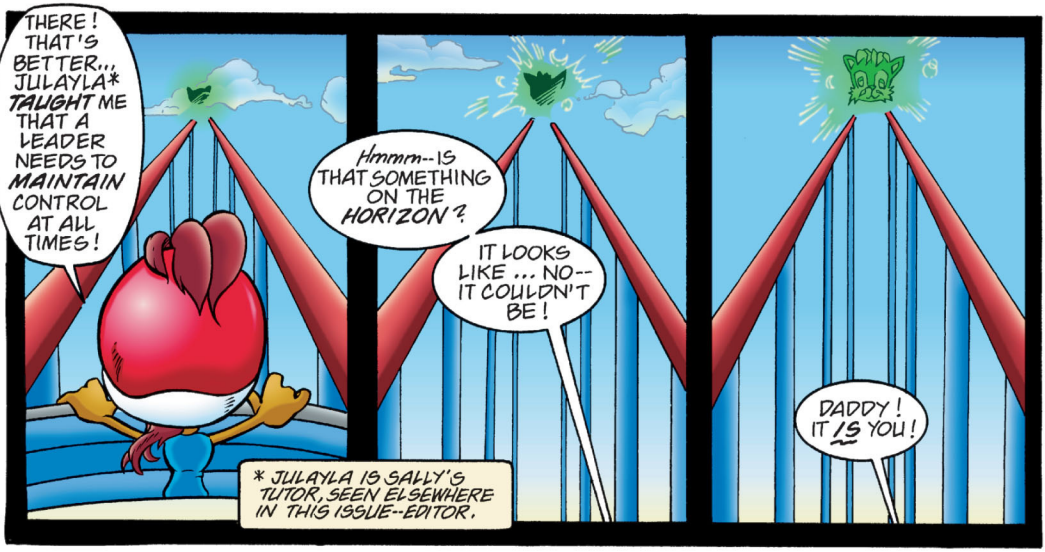
I THOUGHT ROSIE WAS BRINGING A SNACK... I'M HUNGRY!
SHE WILL SOON.
WELL, I NEED A DRINK OF WATER!
* TRUE BLUE SONIC CREW QUESTION: WHEN WAS THE FIRST TIME WE SAW SONIC AT THIS WELL? -EDITOR
=unnnnngh!= THIS THING IS FROZEN-- GIMME A HAND, BOOM BOX!
COMING--
=MMMMF!= C'MON--PUT YOUR WEIGHT INTO IT!
I-- =URG!= AM!
POP!
THUD
AAAGH! DON'T PUT YOUR WEIGHT ONTO ME!
IT'S LOOSE!

LOOK! THERE'S SOMETHING FROZEN IN THE WATER!
EET LOOKS LIKE... EET *IS*! A GOLDEN RING!
CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER...
THINK IT'S *WORTH* ANYTHING?
I DON'T KNOW... WE'LL BRING IT HOME, DEFROST IT AND *CHECK IT OUT.*
HEY, COME ON! THE POND'S FROZEN AGAIN!
LET'S GO! WE'LL DO *THE* WHIP!
ALL RIGHT!
EVERYBODY GET A GOOD GRIP!
NOT *TOO* FAST NOW, SONIC!
JUST HANG ON *TIGHT*, BOYS AND GIRLS!

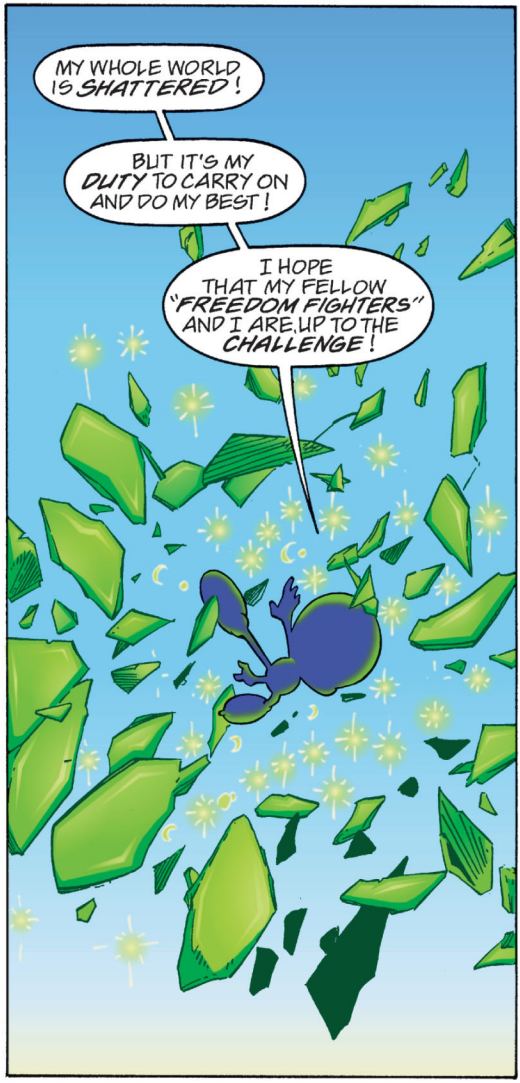

HERE WE GO!
WHIP IT!
WHEEEEEEE!
WHIP IT GOOD!
YOU MUST WHEEP EET!
OH, NON!
WE'RE OUT OF CONTROL!
SONIC-- STOP!
I CAN'T!
LOOK-- UP AHEAD... GLOWING CIRCLES!
WHAT IN BLUE BLAZES?--
THERE'S NO WAY TO STOP--
WE'RE GOING IN-- HANG ON, GUYS!

SONIC KIDS
TM
in:
ZONEWARD BOUND
PART TWO
JEEPERS! WHERE AM I?
OOOOF!
WHEREVER IT IS, I'VE ARRIVED!

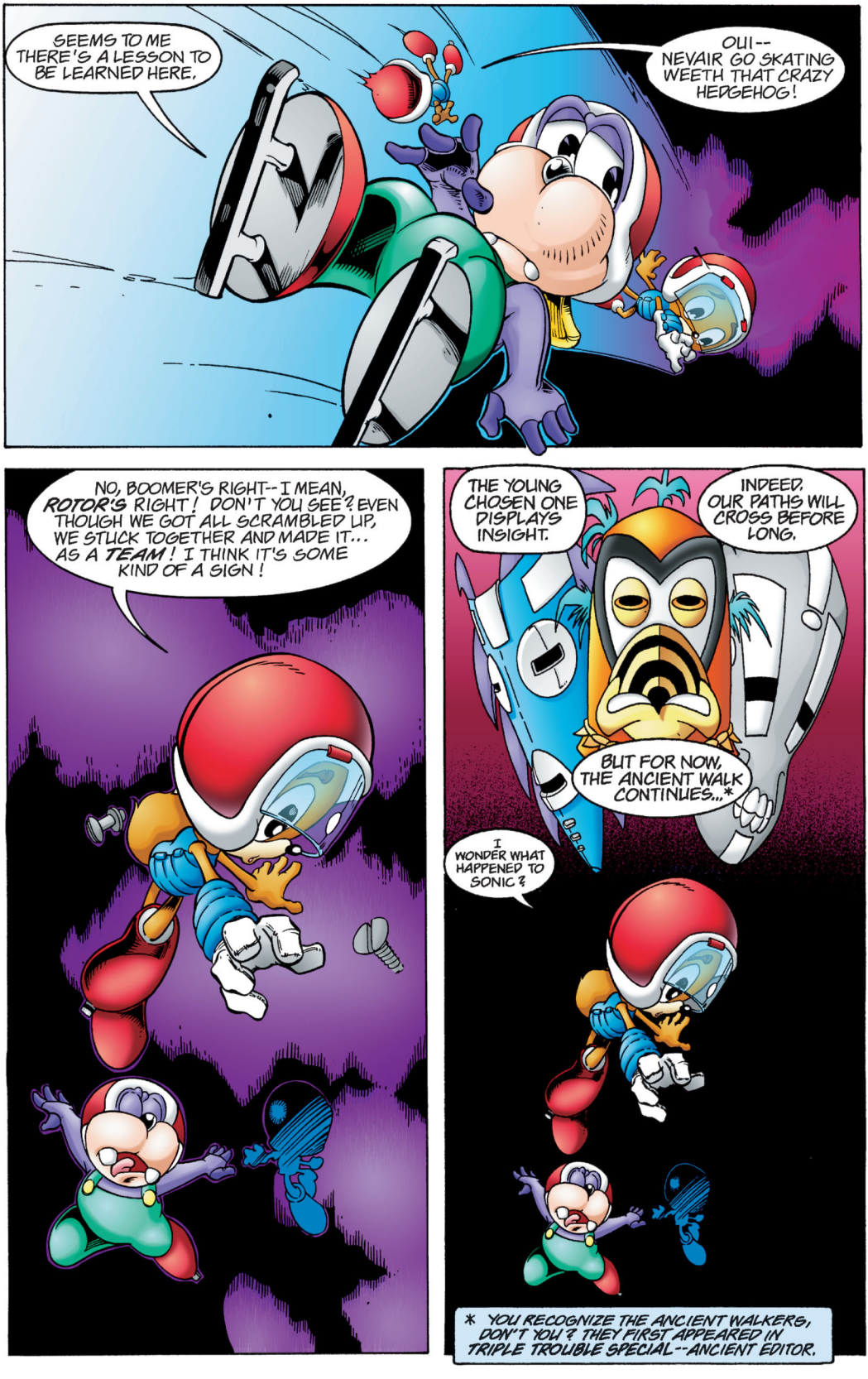

UH-OH... IS THIS TRIP NECESSAREEE
EEEEEEEEE...
WHOA!
IT ALMOST THREW ME!
HEY! I DON'T LIKE BEING JERKED AROUND!
I'M PRINCESS SALLY ACORN... I MAY BE THE NEW RULER OF MOBIUS A LOT SOONER THAN I EXPECTED! I'VE GOT TO GET A GRIP ON MY SITUATION AND FAST!

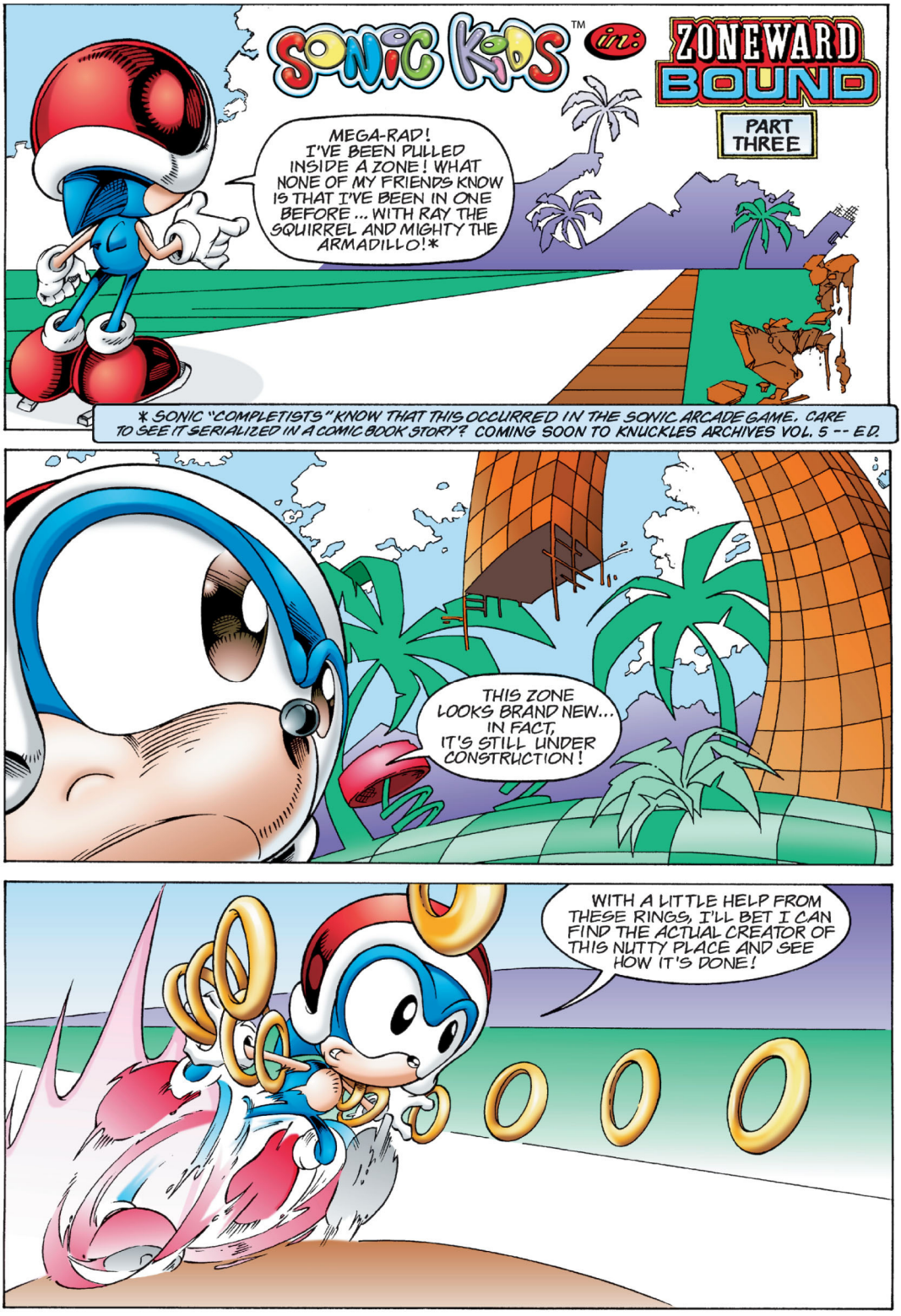

THERE! THAT'S BETTER... JULAYLA* TAUGHT ME THAT A LEADER NEEDS TO MAINTAIN CONTROL AT ALL TIMES!
Hmmm--IS THAT SOMETHING ON THE HORIZON?
IT LOOKS LIKE ... NO-- IT COULDN'T BE!
DADDY! IT IS YOU!
* JULAYLA IS SALLY'S TUTOR, SEEN ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE--EDITOR.

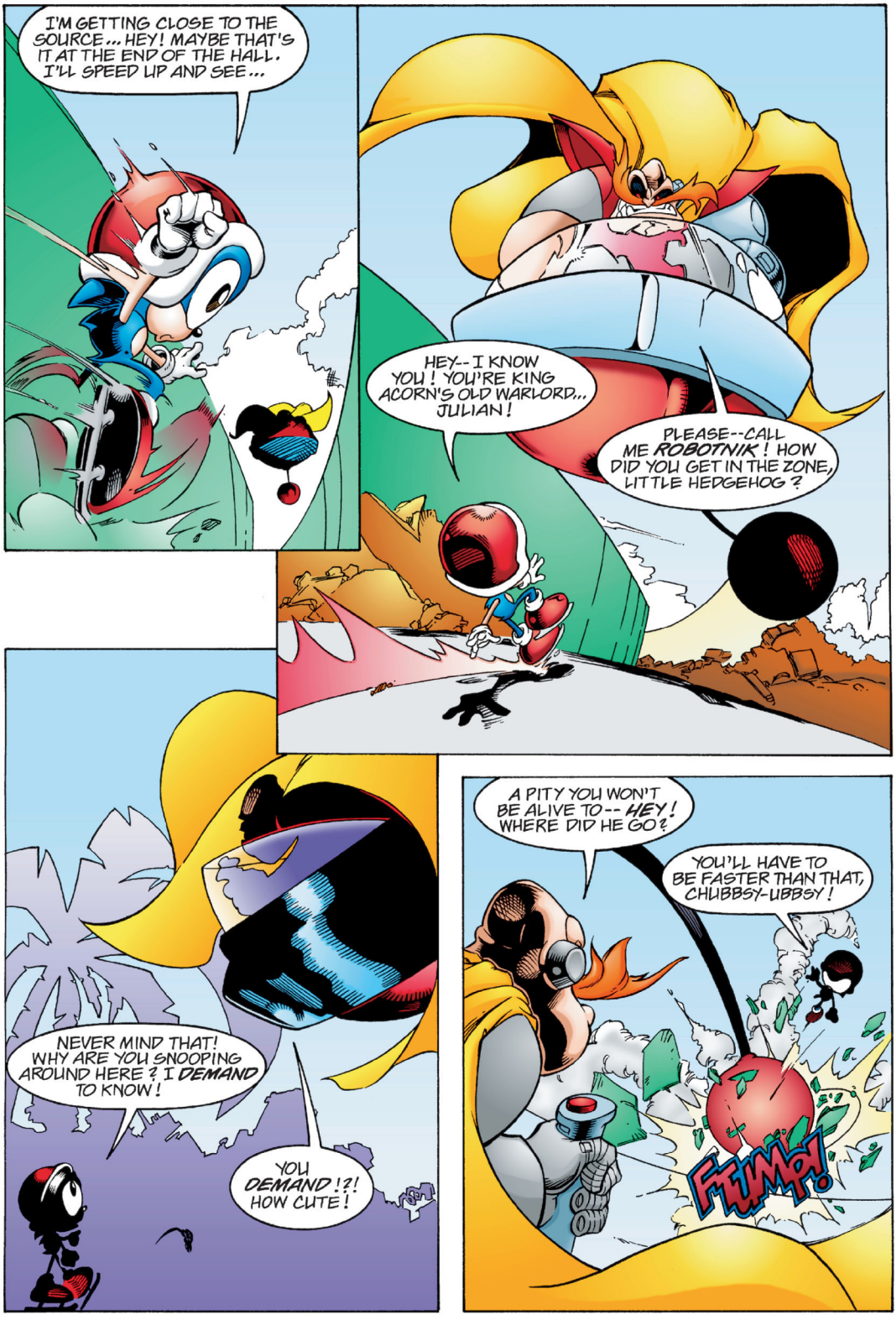
DADDY! WHY IS YOUR FACE MADE OUT OF GREEN CRYSTAL? WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? PLEASE ANSWER ME!


MY WHOLE WORLD IS SHATTERED!
BUT IT'S MY DUTY TO CARRY ON AND DO MY BEST!
I HOPE THAT MY FELLOW "FREEDOM FIGHTERS" AND I ARE UP TO THE CHALLENGE!

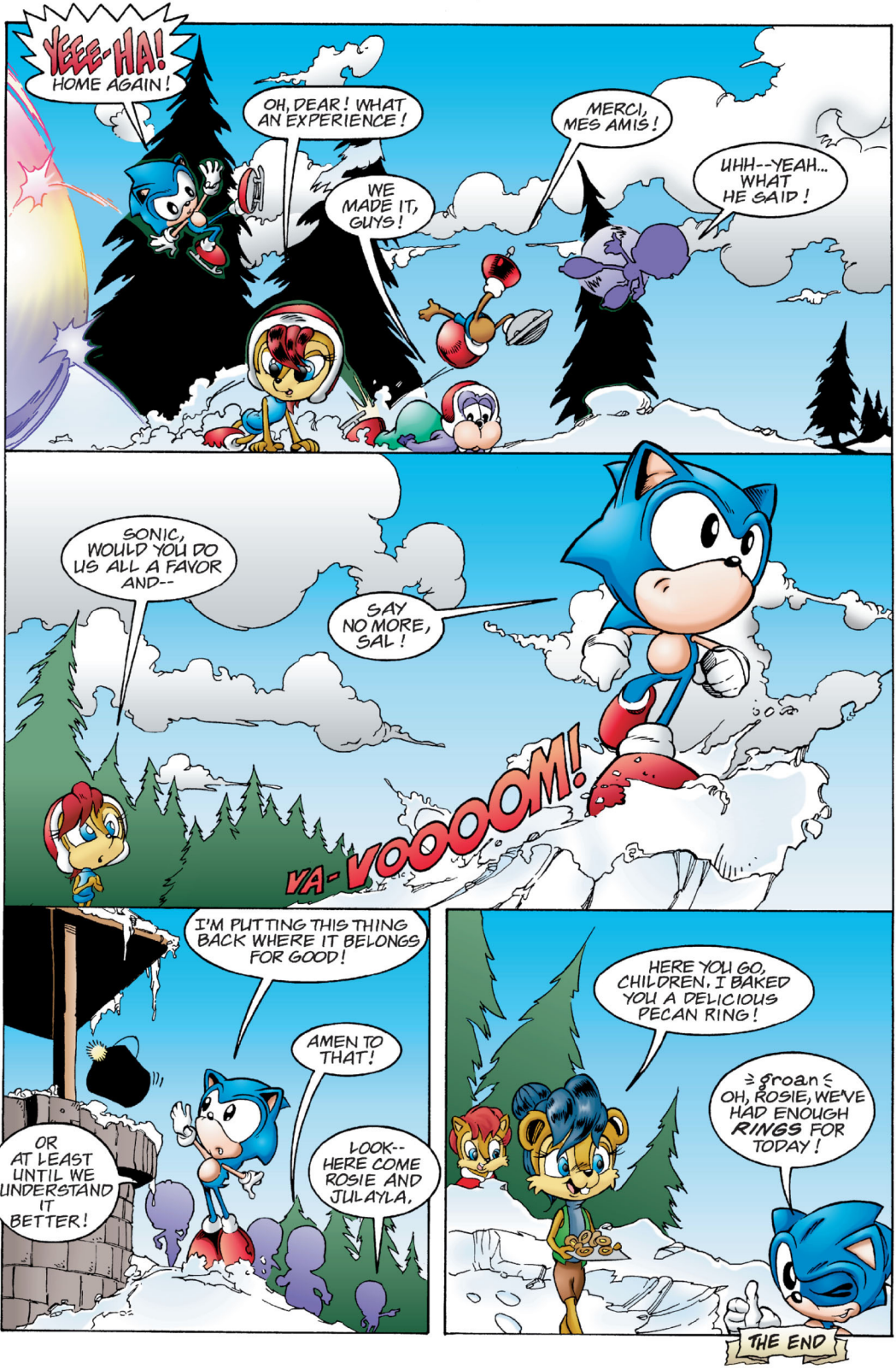
I AM YOU-- AND YOU ARE ME!
WE ARE ALL TOGETHER!
I AM THE WALRUS-- AT LEAST I WAS!
WE'VE GOT TO STOP MEETING LIKE THIS!
GUYS, I THINK WE'VE BEEN TRANSPORTED INTO SOME KIND OF WEIRD ZONE.
WE CAN ALL AGREE ON THAT...
ZEE IMPORTANT THING EES... I THINK I SEE ZEE EXIT!


SEEMS TO ME THERE'S A LESSON TO BE LEARNED HERE.
OUI-- NEVAIR GO SKATING WEETH THAT CRAZY HEDGEHOG!
NO, BOOMER'S RIGHT-- I MEAN, ROTOR'S RIGHT! DON'T YOU SEE? EVEN THOUGH WE GOT ALL SCRAMBLED UP, WE STUCK TOGETHER AND MADE IT... AS A TEAM! I THINK IT'S SOME KIND OF A SIGN!
THE YOUNG CHOSEN ONE DISPLAYS INSIGHT.
INDEED. OUR PATHS WILL CROSS BEFORE LONG.
BUT FOR NOW, THE ANCIENT WALK CONTINUES...*
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO SONIC?
* YOU RECOGNIZE THE ANCIENT WALKERS, DON'T YOU? THEY FIRST APPEARED IN TRIPLE TROUBLE SPECIAL--ANCIENT EDITOR.

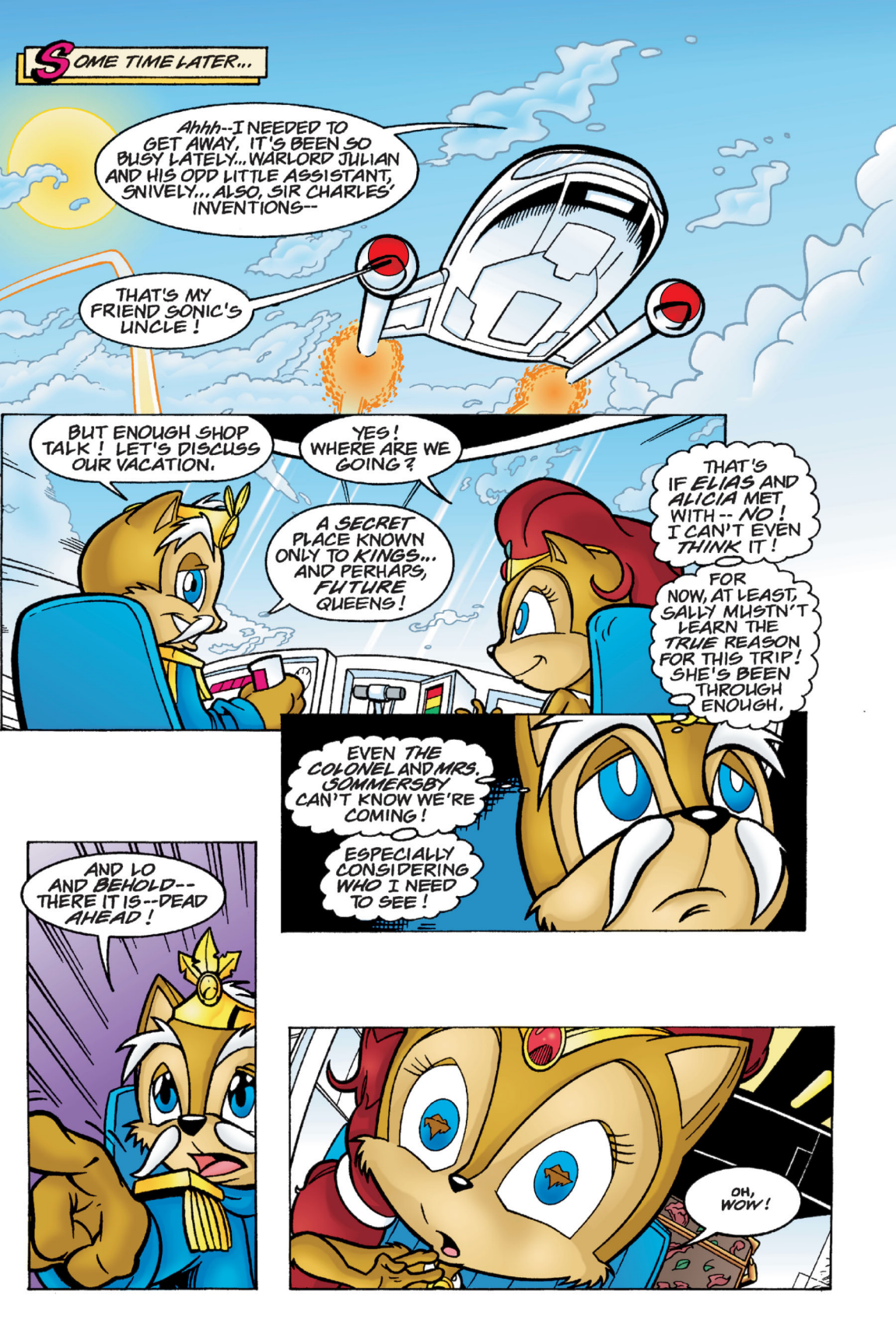

SONIC KIDS™ in:
ZONEWARD BOUND
PART THREE
MEGA-RAD! I'VE BEEN PULLED INSIDE A ZONE! WHAT NONE OF MY FRIENDS KNOW IS THAT I'VE BEEN IN ONE BEFORE... WITH RAY THE SQUIRREL AND MIGHTY THE ARMADILLO!*
* SONIC "COMPLETISTS" KNOW THAT THIS OCCURRED IN THE SONIC ARCADE GAME. CARE TO SEE IT SERIALIZED IN A COMIC BOOK STORY? COMING SOON TO KNUCKLES ARCHIVES VOL. 5 -- ED.
THIS ZONE LOOKS BRAND NEW... IN FACT, IT'S STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION!
WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM THESE RINGS, I'LL BET I CAN FIND THE ACTUAL CREATOR OF THIS NUTTY PLACE AND SEE HOW IT'S DONE!

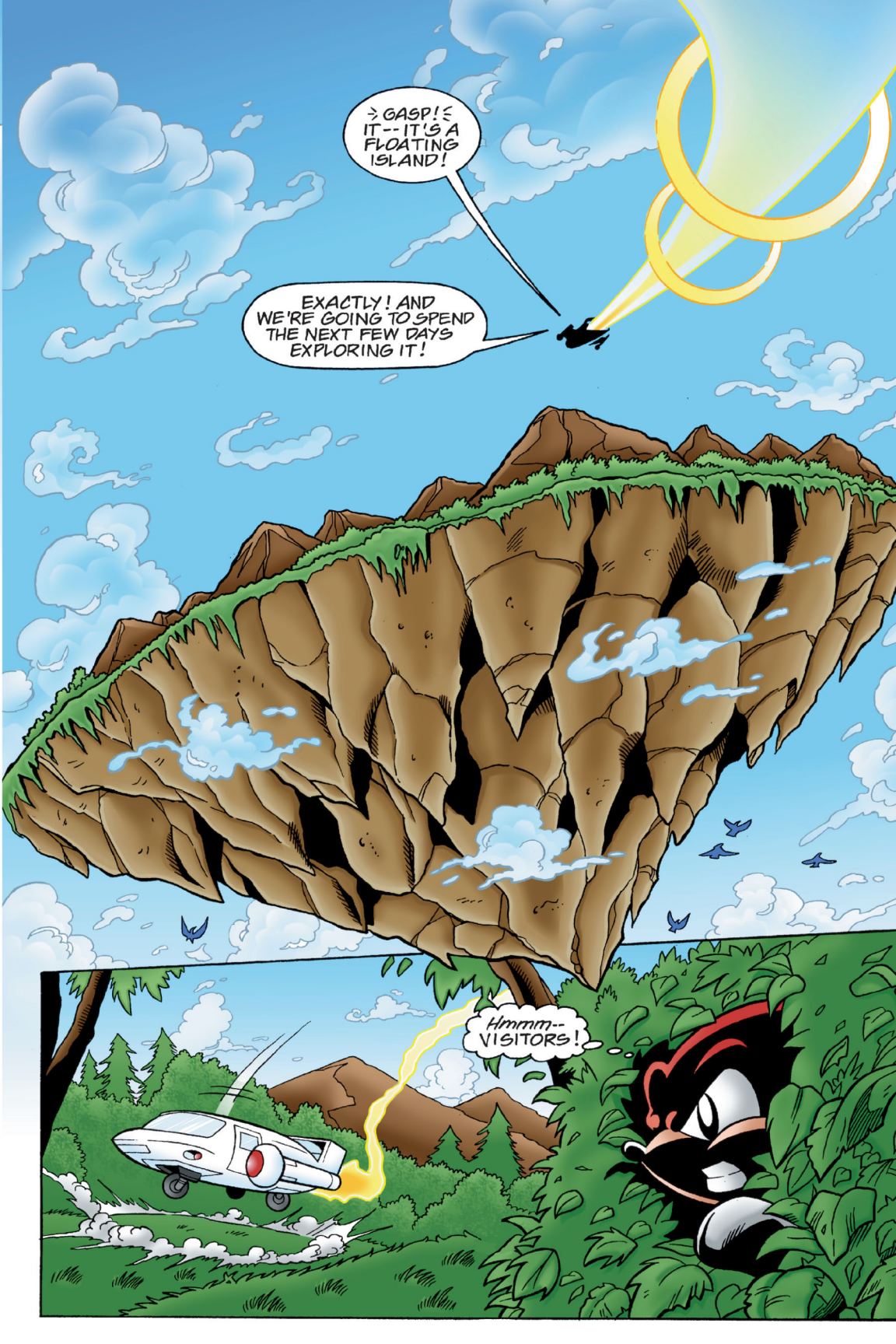

I'M GETTING CLOSE TO THE SOURCE... HEY! MAYBE THAT'S IT AT THE END OF THE HALL. I'LL SPEED UP AND SEE...
HEY--I KNOW YOU! YOU'RE KING ACORN'S OLD WARLORD... JULIAN!
PLEASE--CALL ME ROBOTNIK! HOW DID YOU GET IN THE ZONE, LITTLE HEDGEHOG?
A PITY YOU WON'T BE ALIVE TO-- HEY! WHERE DID HE GO?
YOU'LL HAVE TO BE FASTER THAN THAT, CHUBBSY-UBBSY!
FTUMP!
NEVER MIND THAT! WHY ARE YOU SNOOPING AROUND HERE? I DEMAND TO KNOW!
YOU DEMAND!?! HOW CUTE!

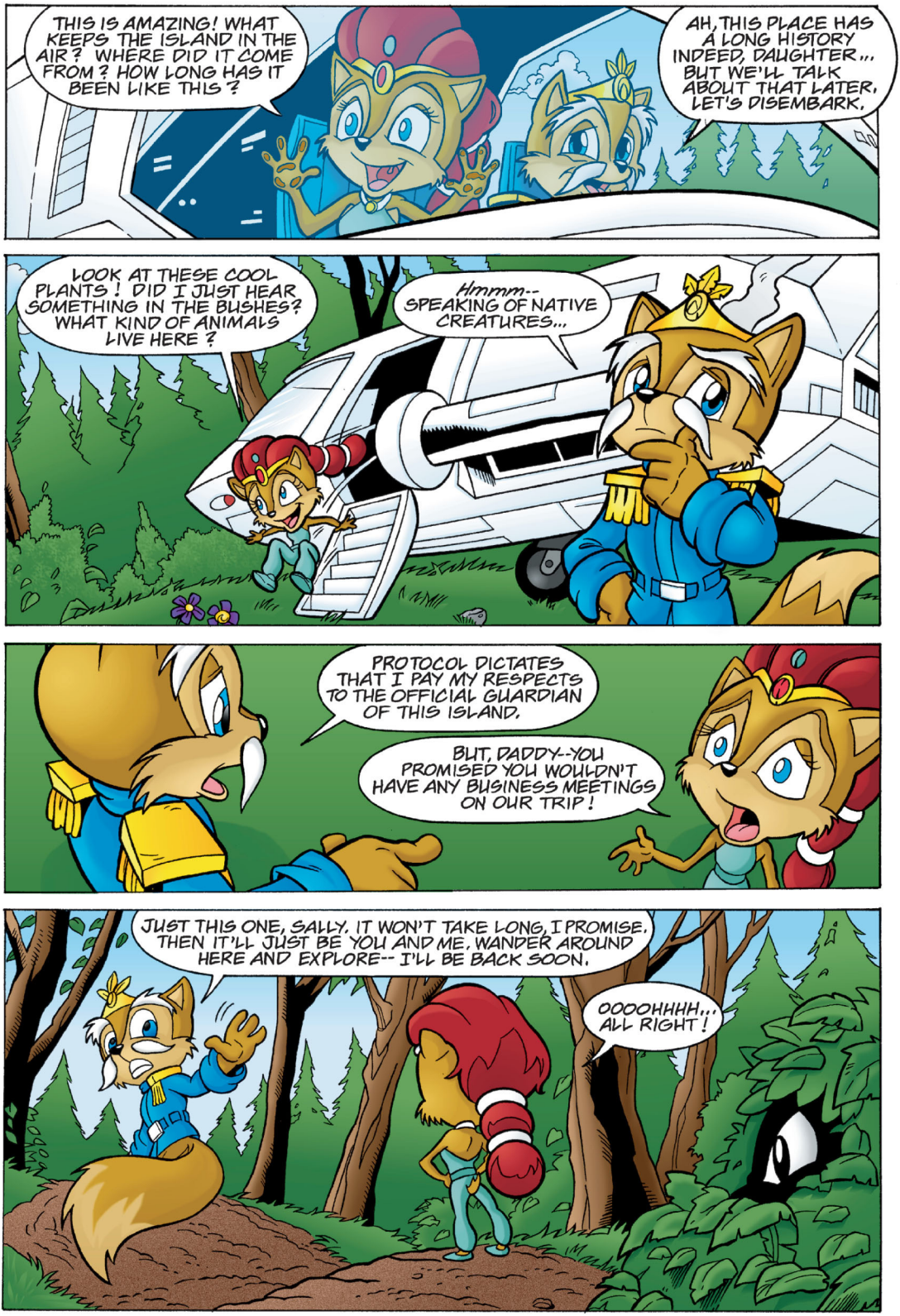
HERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN WORKING ON... I CALL IT MY "SONIC SPIN!"
KTANG!
DON'T DELAY ME, YOU BLUE BOOB! I WAS JUST ABOUT TO ENCOUNTER THE ZONE'S CREATIVE FORCE! IT'S A PRIMAL SOURCE OF POWER THAT MUST BE MINE!
NO--STOP! DON'T! YOU'VE DAMAGED THE HYPER-DRIVE! IT'S OVERLOADING!
CHUKA
DOOOM!
YOU KNOW, I'VE BEEN RE-THINKING THAT IDEA AND I DECIDED THAT IT'S SOMETHING I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO SEE...
AND IF I CAN'T SEE IT, YOU SURE AREN'T GOING TO!
I HATE THAT LITTLE HEDGEHOG!
OKAY, I CAN TAKE A HINT... I KNOW WHEN I'M NOT WANTED!
AND I ALSO KNOW WHAT I WANT... AND THAT'S OUT OF HERE!

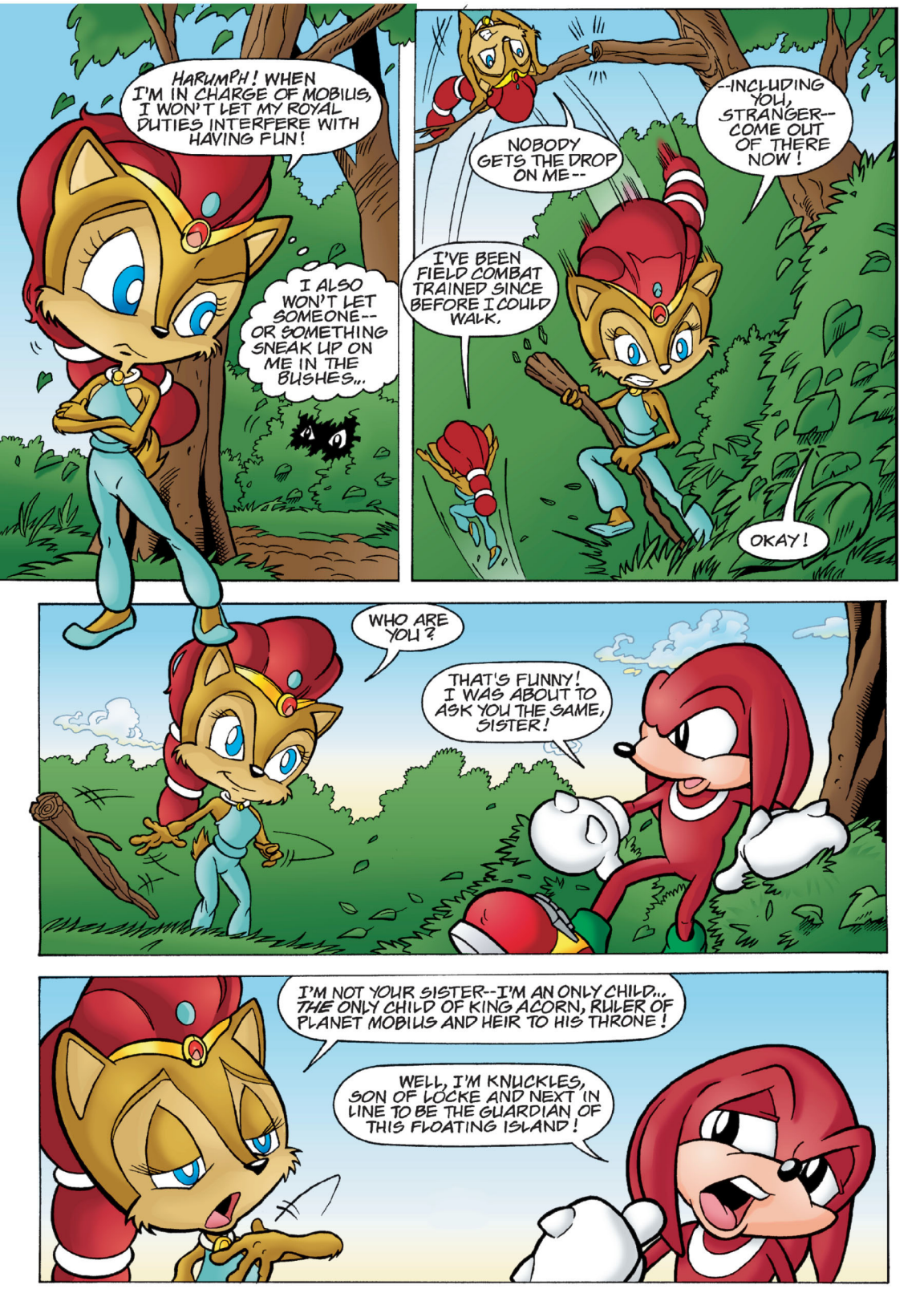

YEEE-HA! HOME AGAIN!
OH, DEAR! WHAT AN EXPERIENCE!
WE MADE IT, GUYS!
MERCI, MES AMIS!
UHH--YEAH... WHAT HE SAID!
SONIC, WOULD YOU DO US ALL A FAVOR AND--
SAY NO MORE, SAL!
VA-VOOOOOM!
I'M PUTTING THIS THING BACK WHERE IT BELONGS FOR GOOD!
AMEN TO THAT!
OR AT LEAST UNTIL WE UNDERSTAND IT BETTER!
LOOK-- HERE COME ROSIE AND JULAYLA,
HERE YOU GO, CHILDREN, I BAKED YOU A DELICIOUS PECAN RING!
≥ groan ≤ OH, ROSIE, WE'VE HAD ENOUGH RINGS FOR TODAY!
THE END

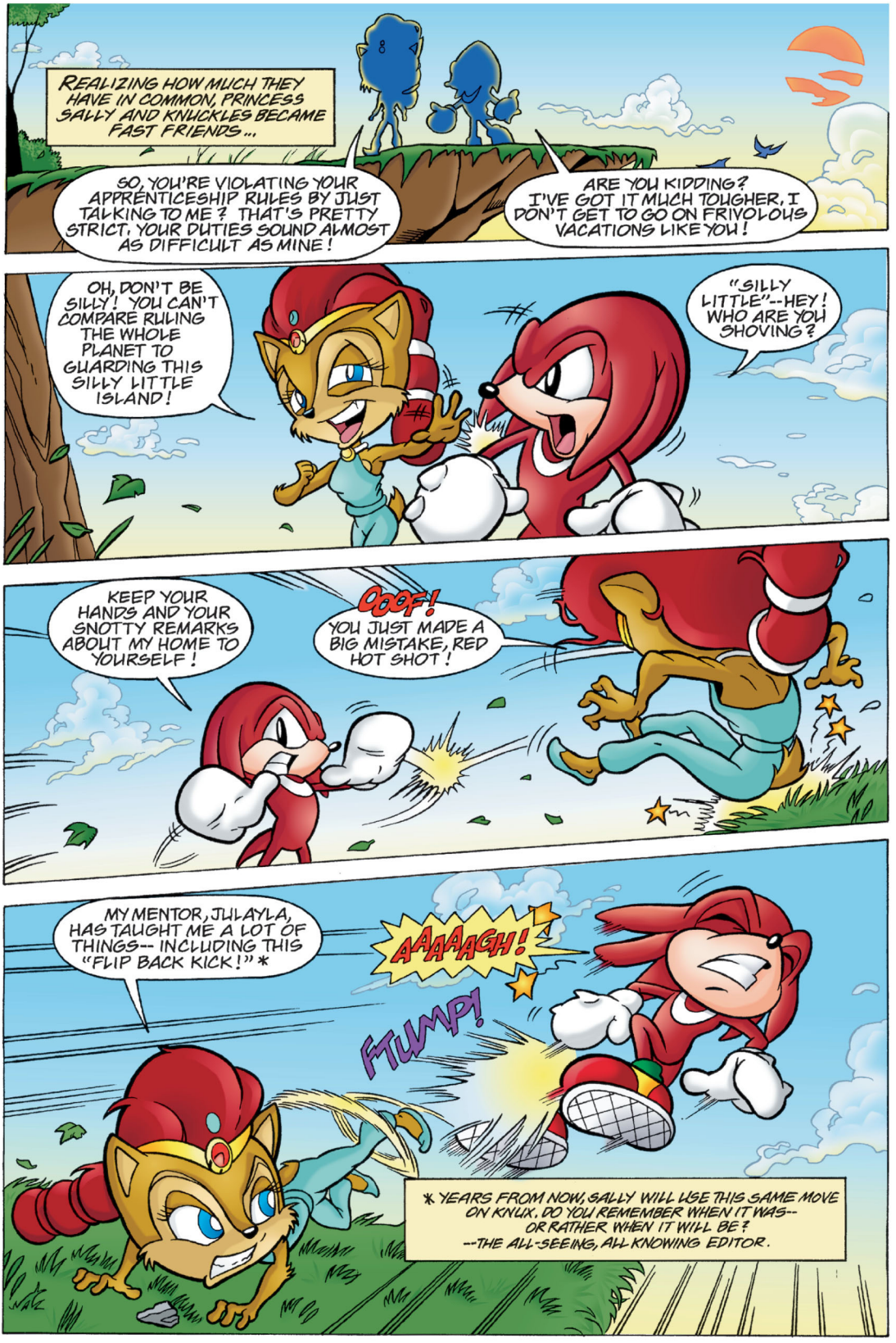
PRINCESS Sally™ in: My Secret Guardian
OH, DEAR... DID YOU REMEMBER TO PACK HER VITAMINS, ROSIE?
I DID, JULAYLA... THEY'RE IN ONE OF THE HALF DOZEN SUITCASES OF HER CLOTHES!
GOOD HEAVENS, LADIES! WE'RE ONLY GOING TO BE GONE A FEW DAYS!
HURRY UP, DADDY! LET'S GO NOW! I CAN'T WAIT FOR OUR TRIP TO START!
I'M SO EXCITED! WE NEVER GET TO BE ALONE TOGETHER!
I KNOW, SWEETHEART. BEING KING TAKES MOST OF MY TIME...BUT BEING KING ALSO MEANS YOU CAN GIVE YOURSELF A VACATION WHENEVER YOU WANT!

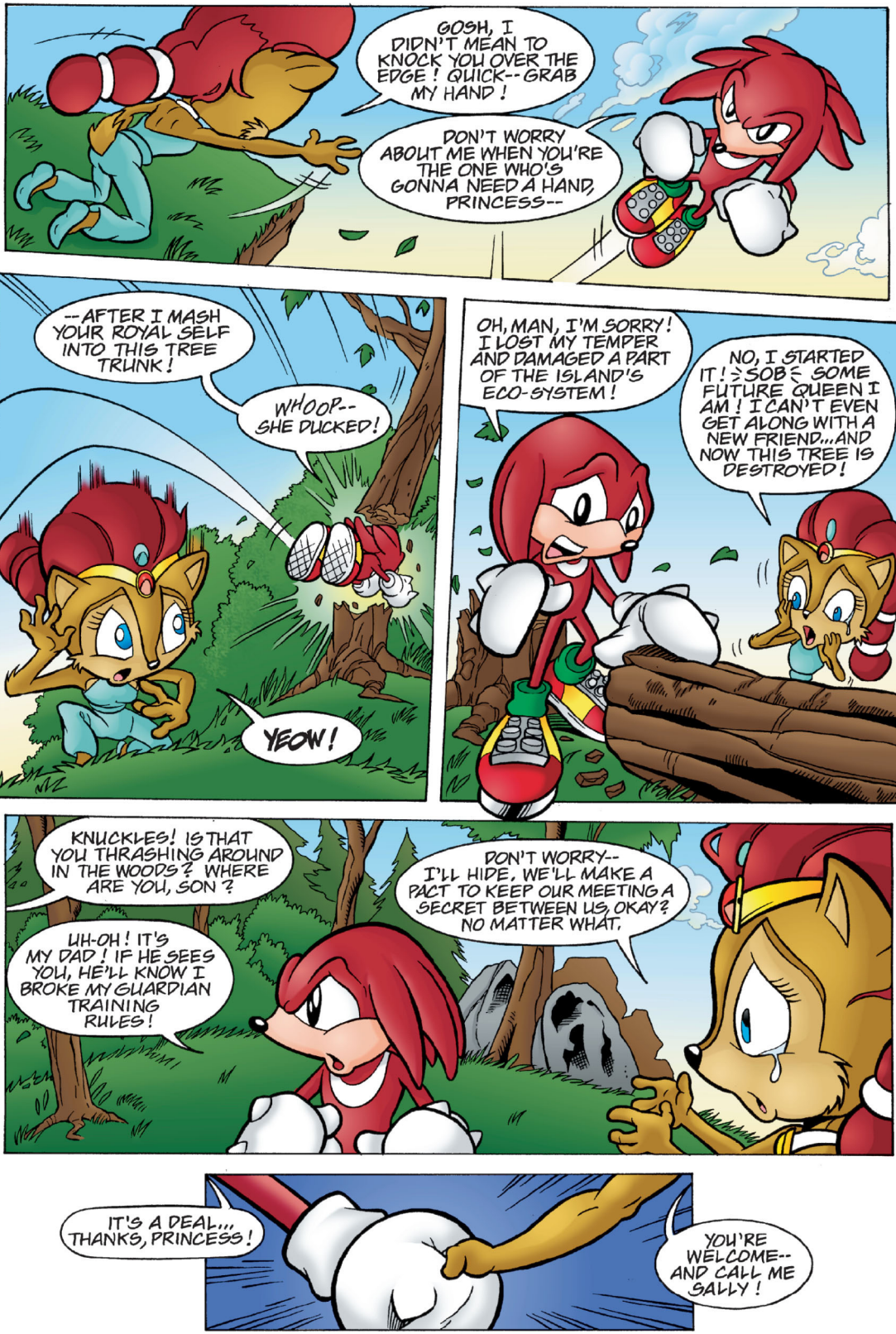

SOME TIME LATER...
Ahhh--I NEEDED TO GET AWAY, IT'S BEEN SO BUSY LATELY... WARLORD JULIAN AND HIS ODD LITTLE ASSISTANT, SNIVELY... ALSO, SIR CHARLES' INVENTIONS--
THAT'S MY FRIEND SONIC'S UNCLE!
BUT ENOUGH SHOP TALK! LET'S DISCUSS OUR VACATION.
YES! WHERE ARE WE GOING?
A SECRET PLACE KNOWN ONLY TO KINGS... AND PERHAPS, FUTURE QUEENS!
THAT'S IF ELIAS AND ALICIA MET WITH -- NO! I CAN'T EVEN THINK IT!
FOR NOW, AT LEAST, SALLY MUSTN'T LEARN THE TRUE REASON FOR THIS TRIP! SHE'S BEEN THROUGH ENOUGH.
EVEN THE COLONEL AND MRS. SOMMERSBY CAN'T KNOW WE'RE COMING!
ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING WHO I NEED TO SEE!
AND LO AND BEHOLD-- THERE IT IS--DEAD AHEAD!
OH, WOW!

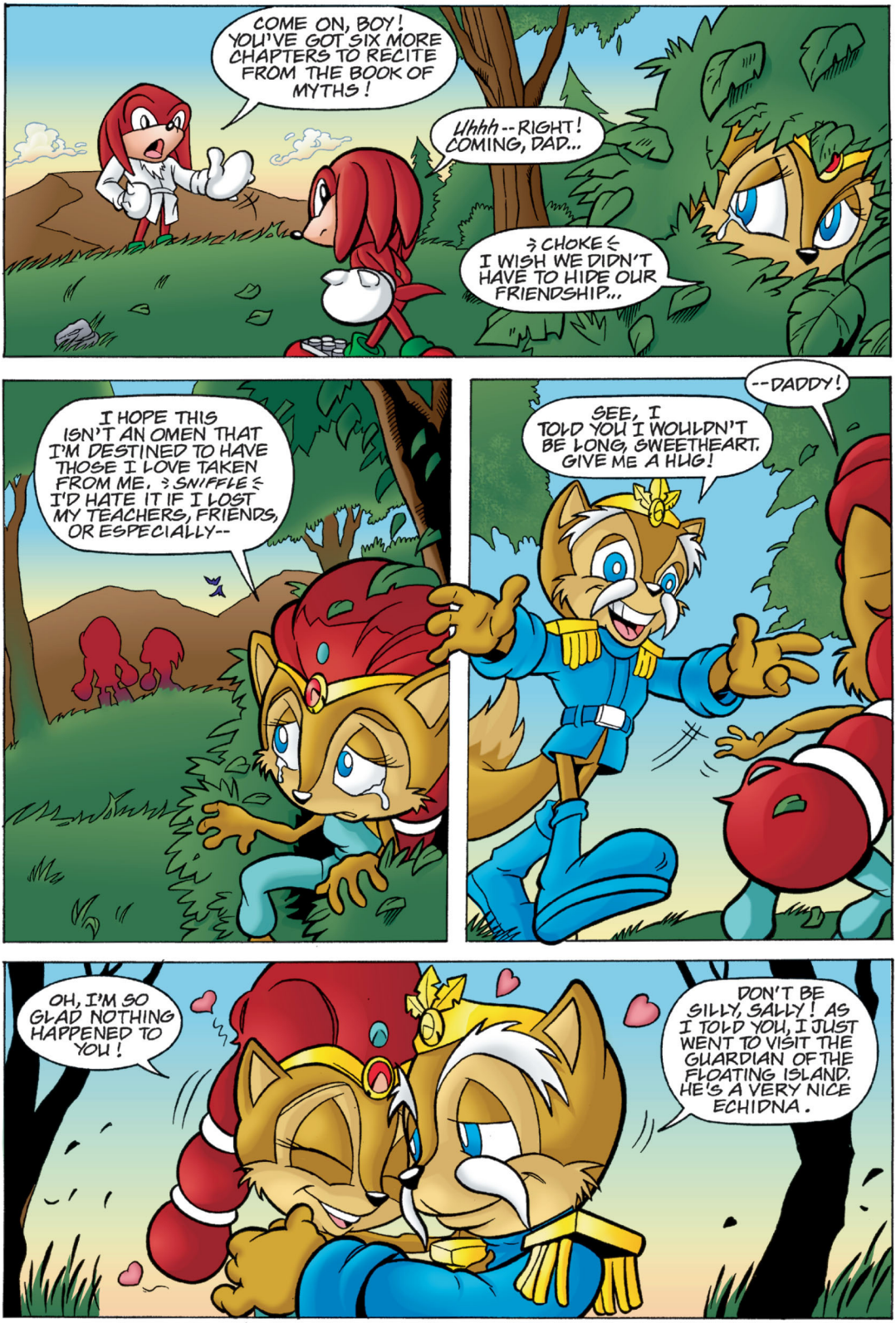

GASP! IT--IT'S A FLOATING ISLAND!
EXACTLY! AND WE'RE GOING TO SPEND THE NEXT FEW DAYS EXPLORING IT!
Hmmm-- VISITORS!

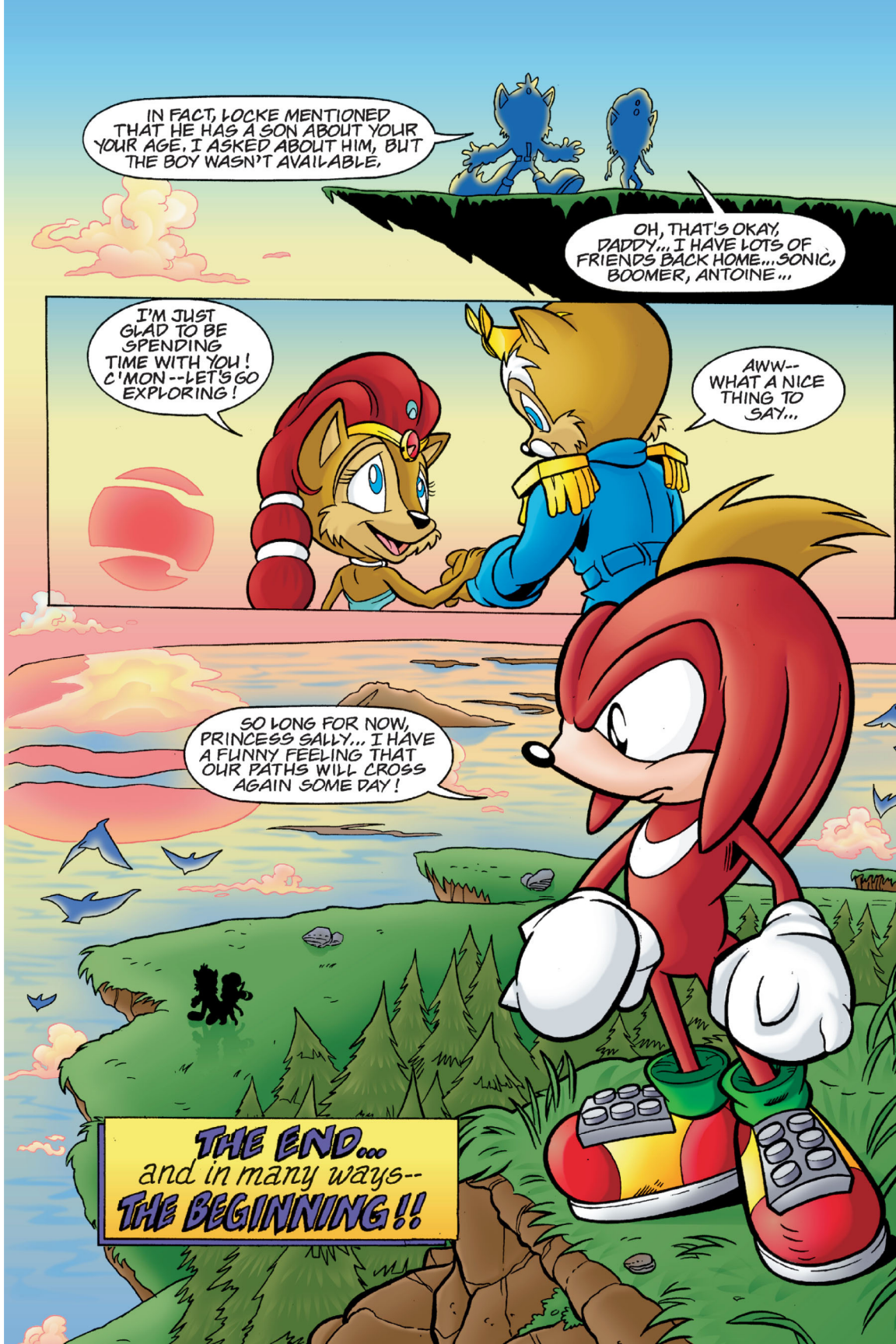

THIS IS AMAZING! WHAT KEEPS THE ISLAND IN THE AIR? WHERE DID IT COME FROM? HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN LIKE THIS?
AH, THIS PLACE HAS A LONG HISTORY INDEED, DAUGHTER... BUT WE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT LATER. LET'S DISEMBARK.
LOOK AT THESE COOL PLANTS! DID I JUST HEAR SOMETHING IN THE BUSHES? WHAT KIND OF ANIMALS LIVE HERE?
Hmmm-- SPEAKING OF NATIVE CREATURES...
PROTOCOL DICTATES THAT I PAY MY RESPECTS TO THE OFFICIAL GUARDIAN OF THIS ISLAND.
BUT, DADDY--YOU PROMISED YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ANY BUSINESS MEETINGS ON OUR TRIP!
JUST THIS ONE, SALLY. IT WON'T TAKE LONG, I PROMISE. THEN IT'LL JUST BE YOU AND ME, WANDER AROUND HERE AND EXPLORE-- I'LL BE BACK SOON.
OOOOHHHH... ALL RIGHT!

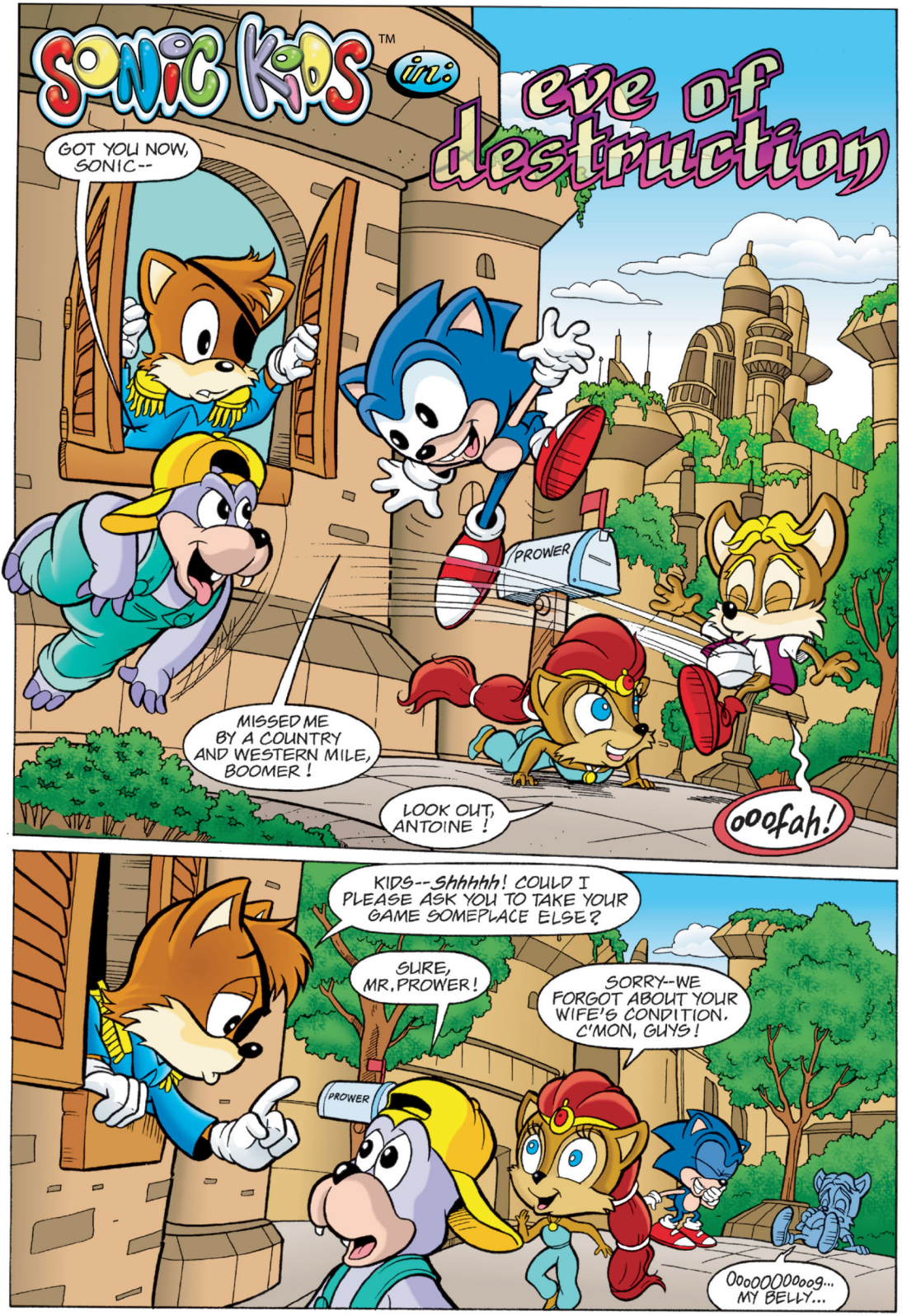

HARUMPH! WHEN I'M IN CHARGE OF MOBIUS, I WON'T LET MY ROYAL DUTIES INTERFERE WITH HAVING FUN!
I ALSO WON'T LET SOMEONE-- OR SOMETHING SNEAK UP ON ME IN THE BUSHES...
NOBODY GETS THE DROP ON ME--
--INCLUDING YOU, STRANGER-- COME OUT OF THERE NOW!
I'VE BEEN FIELD COMBAT TRAINED SINCE BEFORE I COULD WALK.
OKAY!
WHO ARE YOU?
THAT'S FUNNY! I WAS ABOUT TO ASK YOU THE SAME, SISTER!
I'M NOT YOUR SISTER--I'M AN ONLY CHILD... THE ONLY CHILD OF KING ACORN, RULER OF PLANET MOBIUS AND HEIR TO HIS THRONE!
WELL, I'M KNUCKLES, SON OF LOCKE AND NEXT IN LINE TO BE THE GUARDIAN OF THIS FLOATING ISLAND!

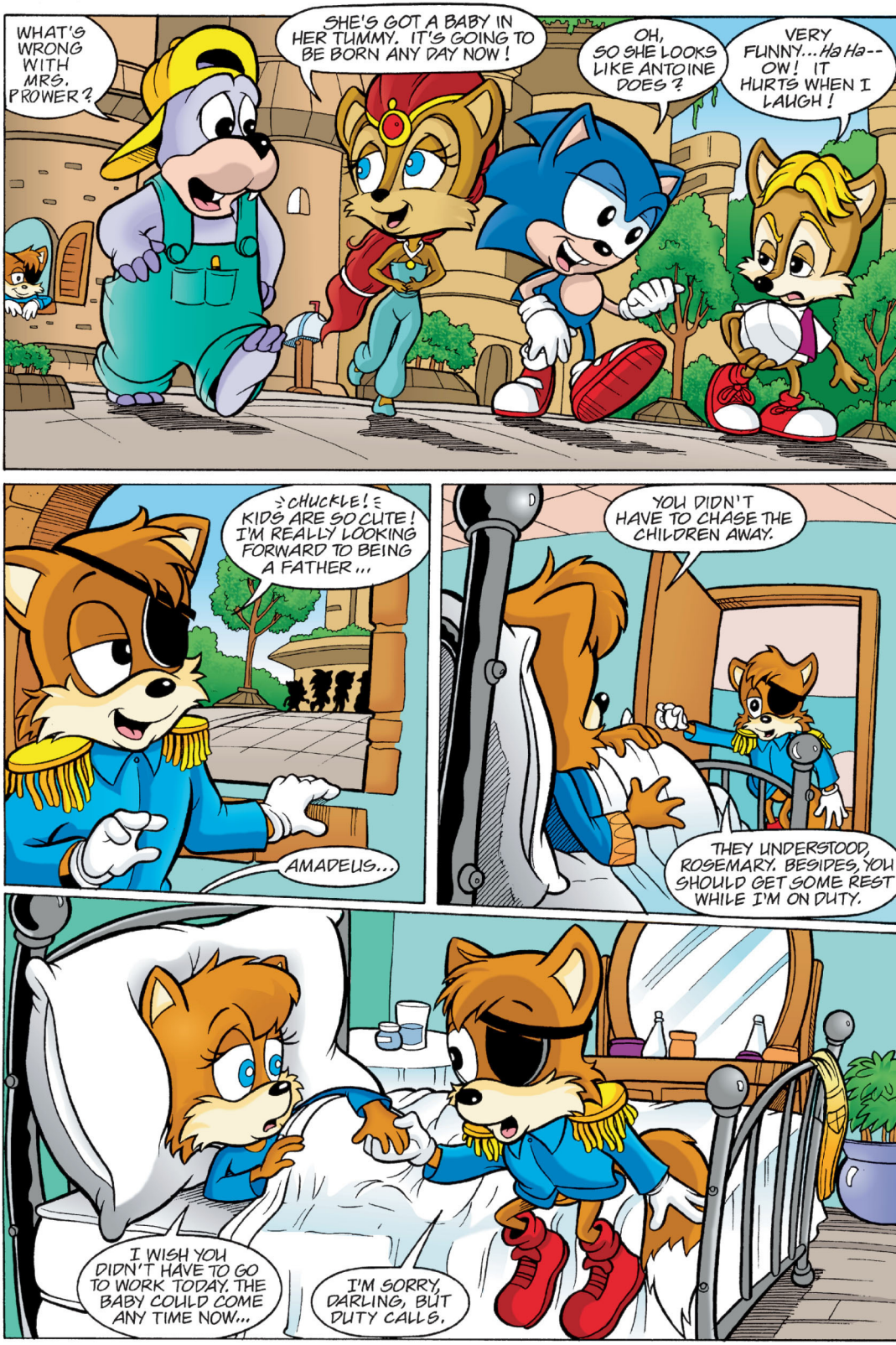

REALIZING HOW MUCH THEY HAVE IN COMMON, PRINCESS SALLY AND KNUCKLES BECAME FAST FRIENDS...
SO, YOU'RE VIOLATING YOUR APPRENTICESHIP RULES BY JUST TALKING TO ME? THAT'S PRETTY STRICT; YOUR DUTIES SOUND ALMOST AS DIFFICULT AS MINE!
ARE YOU KIDDING? I'VE GOT IT MUCH TOUGHER, I DON'T GET TO GO ON FRIVOLOUS VACATIONS LIKE YOU!
OH, DON'T BE SILLY! YOU CAN'T COMPARE RULING THE WHOLE PLANET TO GUARDING THIS SILLY LITTLE ISLAND!
"SILLY LITTLE"--HEY! WHO ARE YOU SHOVING?
KEEP YOUR HANDS AND YOUR SNOTTY REMARKS ABOUT MY HOME TO YOURSELF!
OOOF!
YOU JUST MADE A BIG MISTAKE, RED HOT SHOT!
MY MENTOR, JULAYLA, HAS TAUGHT ME A LOT OF THINGS-- INCLUDING THIS "FLIP BACK KICK!" *
AAAAAGH!
FTUMP!
* YEARS FROM NOW, SALLY WILL USE THIS SAME MOVE ON KNUX. DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN IT WAS-- OR RATHER WHEN IT WILL BE? --THE ALL-SEEING, ALL KNOWING EDITOR.

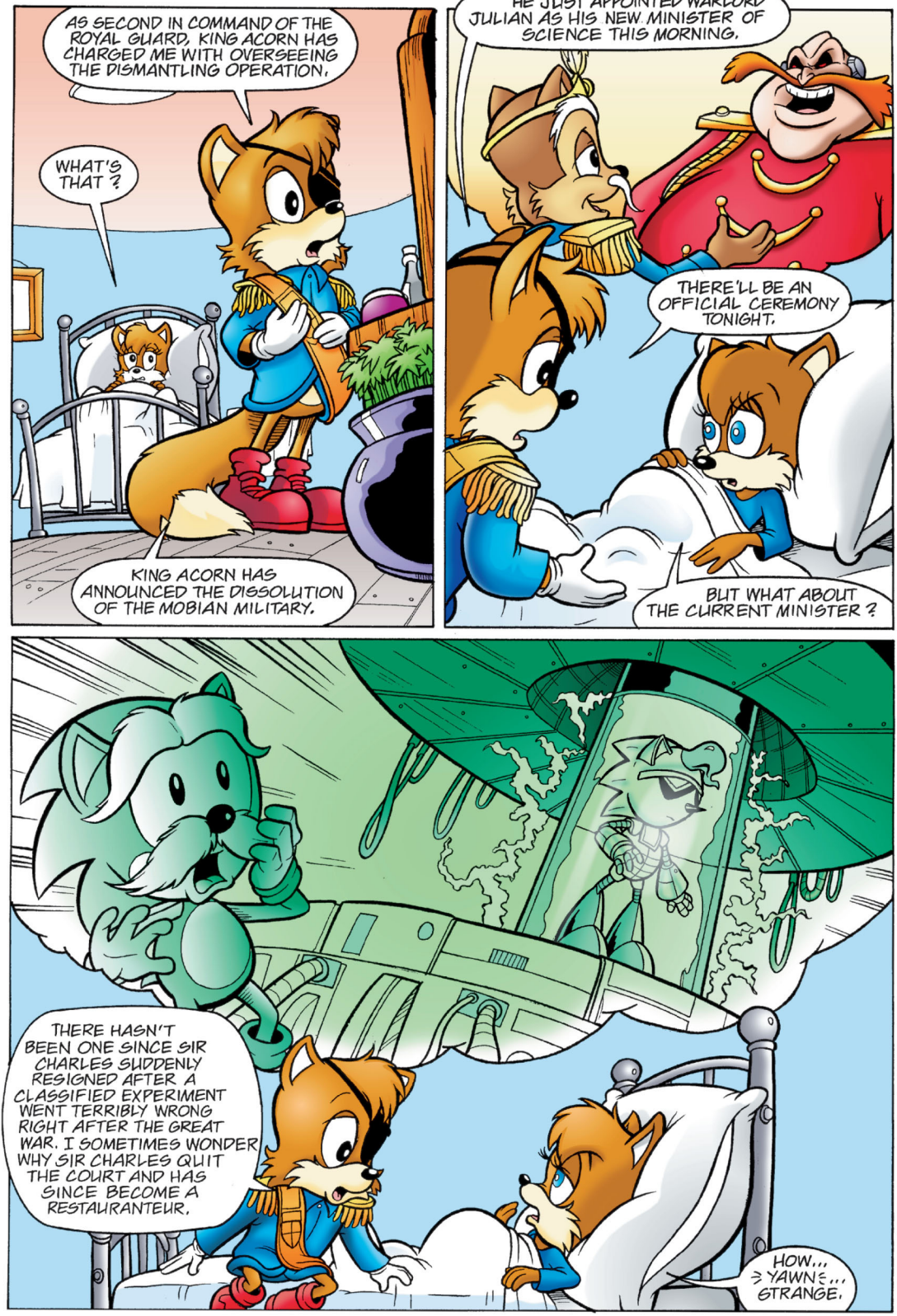

GOSH, I DIDN'T MEAN TO KNOCK YOU OVER THE EDGE! QUICK--GRAB MY HAND!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME WHEN YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S GONNA NEED A HAND, PRINCESS--
--AFTER I MASH YOUR ROYAL SELF INTO THIS TREE TRUNK!
WHOOP--SHE DUCKED!
YEOW!
OH, MAN, I'M SORRY! I LOST MY TEMPER AND DAMAGED A PART OF THE ISLAND'S ECO-SYSTEM!
NO, I STARTED IT! >SOB< SOME FUTURE QUEEN I AM! I CAN'T EVEN GET ALONG WITH A NEW FRIEND...AND NOW THIS TREE IS DESTROYED!
KNUCKLES! IS THAT YOU THRASHING AROUND IN THE WOODS? WHERE ARE YOU, SON?
UH-OH! IT'S MY DAD! IF HE SEES YOU, HE'LL KNOW I BROKE MY GUARDIAN TRAINING RULES!
DON'T WORRY--I'LL HIDE, WE'LL MAKE A PACT TO KEEP OUR MEETING A SECRET BETWEEN US, OKAY? NO MATTER WHAT.
IT'S A DEAL... THANKS, PRINCESS!
YOU'RE WELCOME--AND CALL ME SALLY!

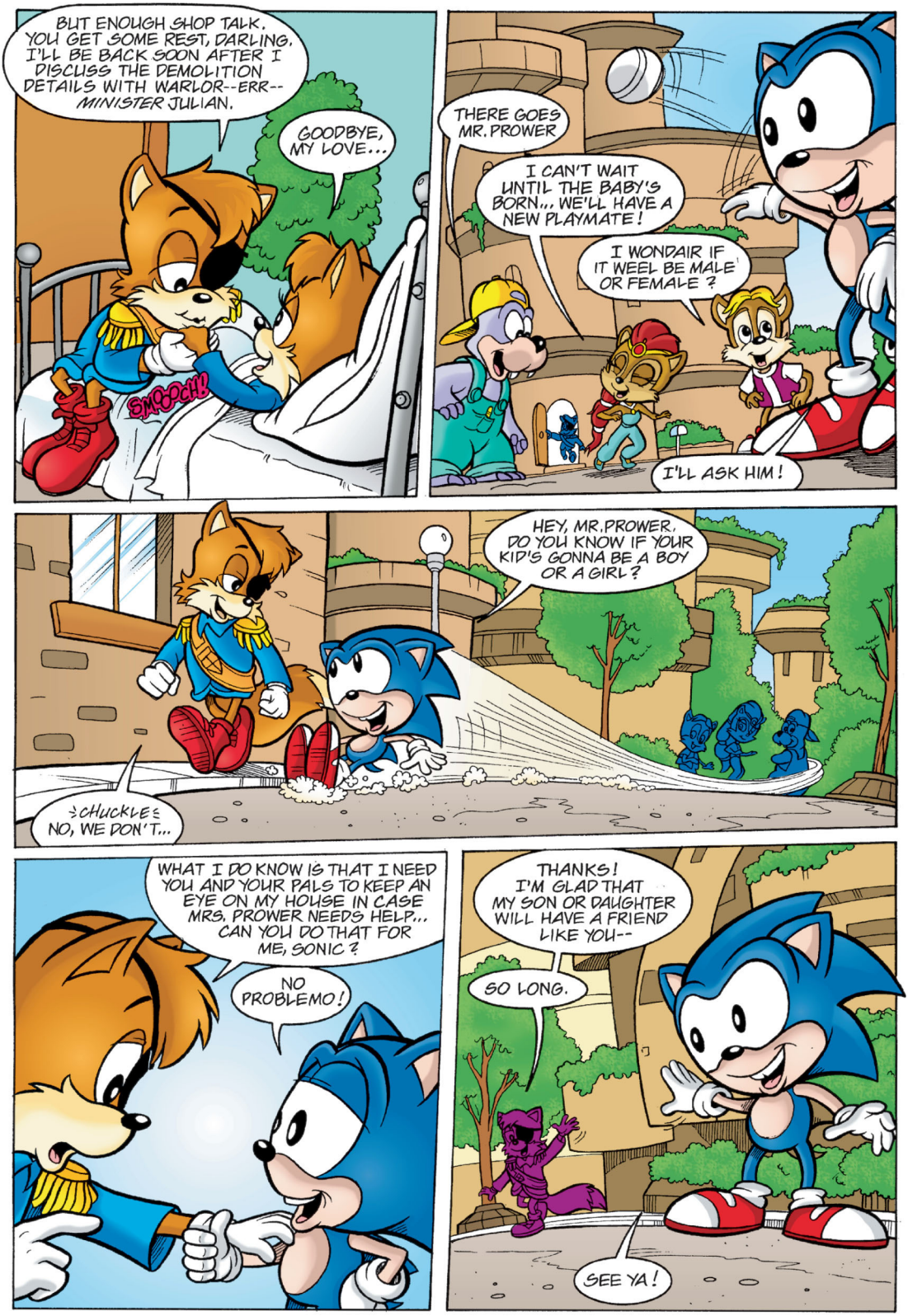

COME ON, BOY! YOU'VE GOT SIX MORE CHAPTERS TO RECITE FROM THE BOOK OF MYTHS!
Uhhh--RIGHT! COMING, DAD...
:CHOKE: I WISH WE DIDN'T HAVE TO HIDE OUR FRIENDSHIP...
I HOPE THIS ISN'T AN OMEN THAT I'M DESTINED TO HAVE THOSE I LOVE TAKEN FROM ME. :SNIFFLE: I'D HATE IT IF I LOST MY TEACHERS, FRIENDS, OR ESPECIALLY--
--DADDY!
SEE, I TOLD YOU I WOULDN'T BE LONG, SWEETHEART. GIVE ME A HUG!
OH, I'M SO GLAD NOTHING HAPPENED TO YOU!
DON'T BE SILLY, SALLY! AS I TOLD YOU, I JUST WENT TO VISIT THE GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND. HE'S A VERY NICE ECHIDNA.


IN FACT, LOCKE MENTIONED THAT HE HAS A SON ABOUT YOUR YOUR AGE, I ASKED ABOUT HIM, BUT THE BOY WASN'T AVAILABLE.
OH, THAT'S OKAY, DADDY... I HAVE LOTS OF FRIENDS BACK HOME... SONIC, BOOMER, ANTOINE...
I'M JUST GLAD TO BE SPENDING TIME WITH YOU! C'MON--LET'S GO EXPLORING!
AWW-- WHAT A NICE THING TO SAY...
SO LONG FOR NOW, PRINCESS SALLY... I HAVE A FUNNY FEELING THAT OUR PATHS WILL CROSS AGAIN SOME DAY!
THE END... and in many ways-- THE BEGINNING!!

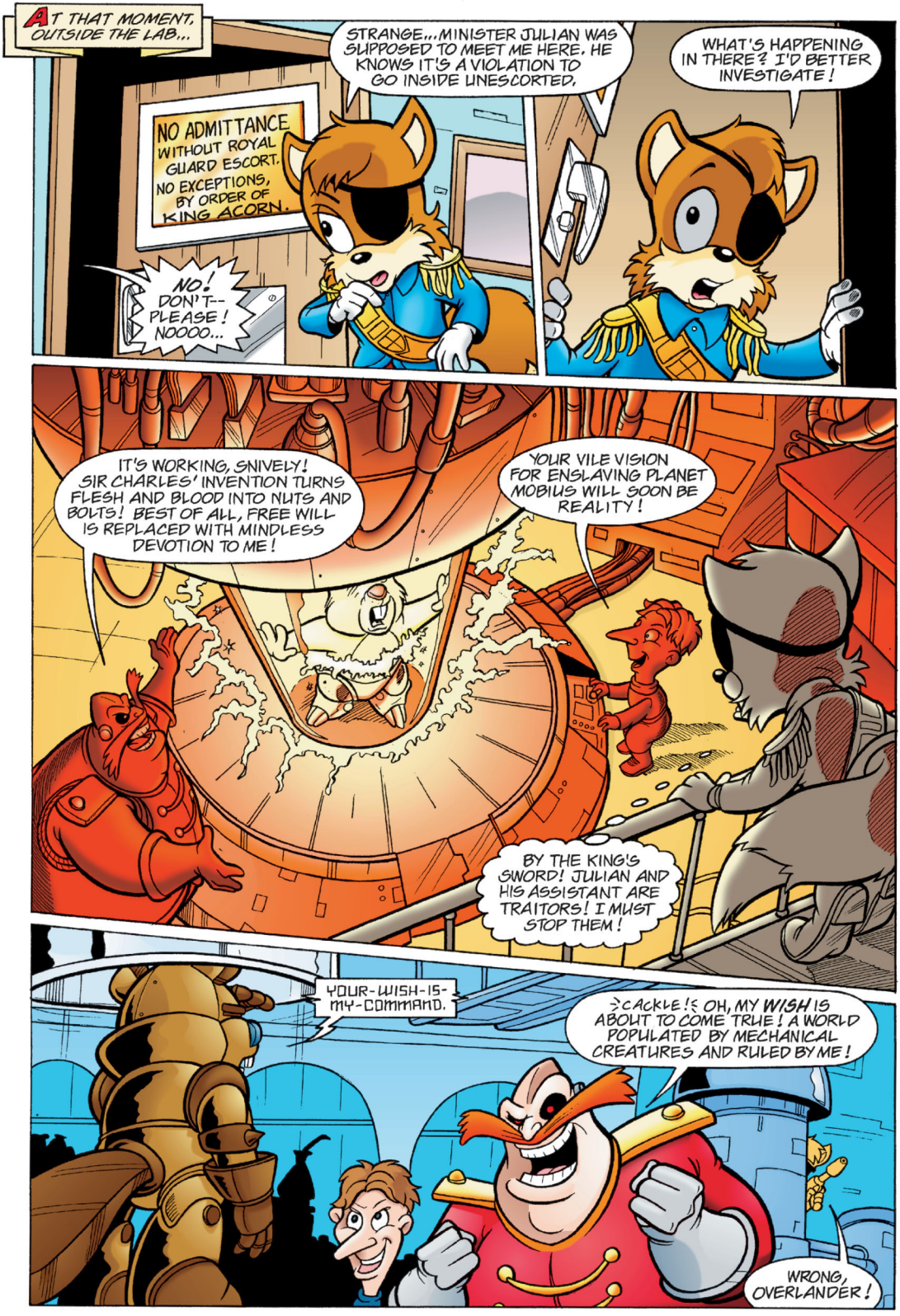

SONIC KIDS™ in:
eve of destruction
GOT YOU NOW, SONIC--
PROWER
MISSED ME BY A COUNTRY AND WESTERN MILE, BOOMER!
LOOK OUT, ANTOINE!
ooofah!
KIDS--Shhhhh! COULD I PLEASE ASK YOU TO TAKE YOUR GAME SOMEPLACE ELSE?
SURE, MR. PROWER!
SORRY--WE FORGOT ABOUT YOUR WIFE'S CONDITION. C'MON, GUYS!
PROWER
Oooooooooog... MY BELLY...


WHAT'S WRONG WITH MRS. PROWER?
SHE'S GOT A BABY IN HER TUMMY. IT'S GOING TO BE BORN ANY DAY NOW!
OH, SO SHE LOOKS LIKE ANTOINE DOES?
VERY FUNNY... Ha Ha-- OW! IT HURTS WHEN I LAUGH!
:CHUCKLE! : KIDS ARE SO CUTE! I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO BEING A FATHER...
AMADEUS...
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO CHASE THE CHILDREN AWAY.
THEY UNDERSTOOD, ROSEMARY. BESIDES, YOU SHOULD GET SOME REST WHILE I'M ON DUTY.
I WISH YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO TO WORK TODAY. THE BABY COULD COME ANY TIME NOW...
I'M SORRY, DARLING, BUT DUTY CALLS.

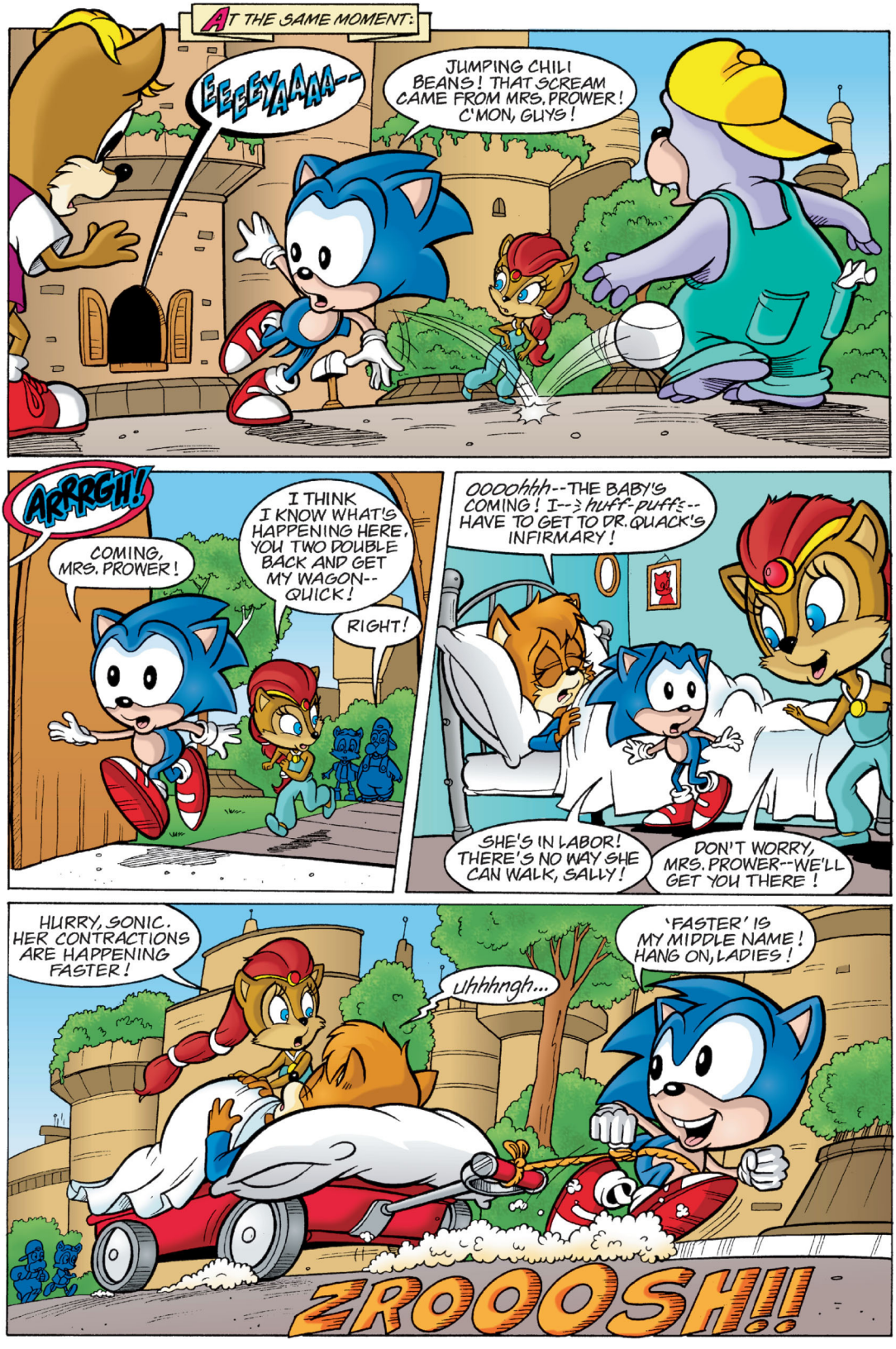

AS SECOND IN COMMAND OF THE ROYAL GUARD, KING ACORN HAS CHARGED ME WITH OVERSEEING THE DISMANTLING OPERATION.
WHAT'S THAT?
KING ACORN HAS ANNOUNCED THE DISSOLUTION OF THE MOBIAN MILITARY.
HE JUST APPOINTED WARLORD JULIAN AS HIS NEW MINISTER OF SCIENCE THIS MORNING.
THERE'LL BE AN OFFICIAL CEREMONY TONIGHT.
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE CURRENT MINISTER?
THERE HASN'T BEEN ONE SINCE SIR CHARLES SUDDENLY RESIGNED AFTER A CLASSIFIED EXPERIMENT WENT TERRIBLY WRONG RIGHT AFTER THE GREAT WAR. I SOMETIMES WONDER WHY SIR CHARLES QUIT THE COURT AND HAS SINCE BECOME A RESTAURANTEUR.
HOW... *YAWN*... STRANGE.

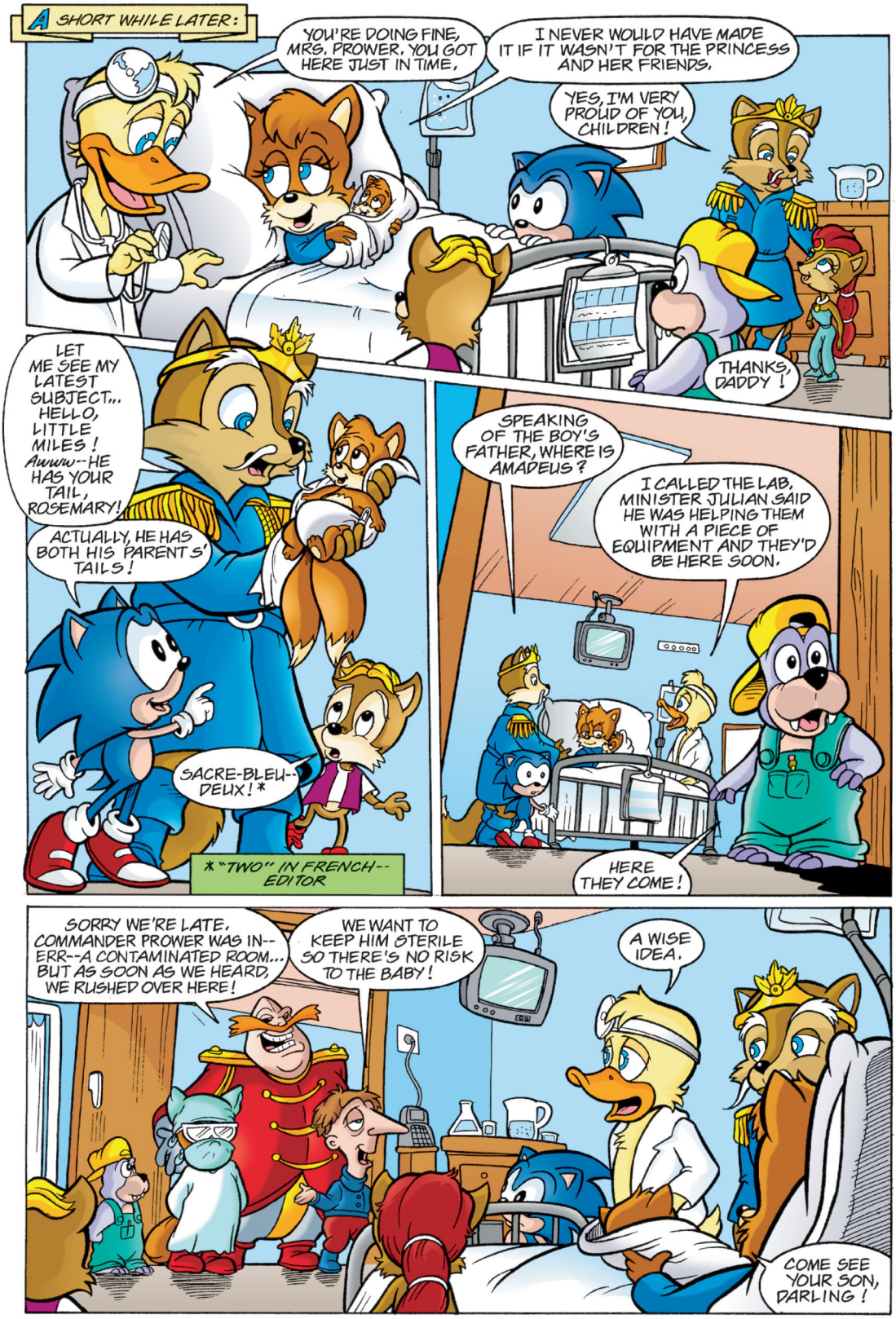

BUT ENOUGH SHOP TALK. YOU GET SOME REST, DARLING. I'LL BE BACK SOON AFTER I DISCUSS THE DEMOLITION DETAILS WITH WARLOR--ERR-- MINISTER JULIAN.
GOODBYE, MY LOVE...
SMOOCH!
THERE GOES MR. PROWER
I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL THE BABY'S BORN... WE'LL HAVE A NEW PLAYMATE!
I WONDAIR IF IT WEEL BE MALE OR FEMALE?
I'LL ASK HIM!
HEY, MR. PROWER, DO YOU KNOW IF YOUR KID'S GONNA BE A BOY OR A GIRL?
=CHUCKLE= NO, WE DON'T...
WHAT I DO KNOW IS THAT I NEED YOU AND YOUR PALS TO KEEP AN EYE ON MY HOUSE IN CASE MRS. PROWER NEEDS HELP... CAN YOU DO THAT FOR ME, SONIC?
NO PROBLEMO!
THANKS! I'M GLAD THAT MY SON OR DAUGHTER WILL HAVE A FRIEND LIKE YOU--
SO LONG.
SEE YA!

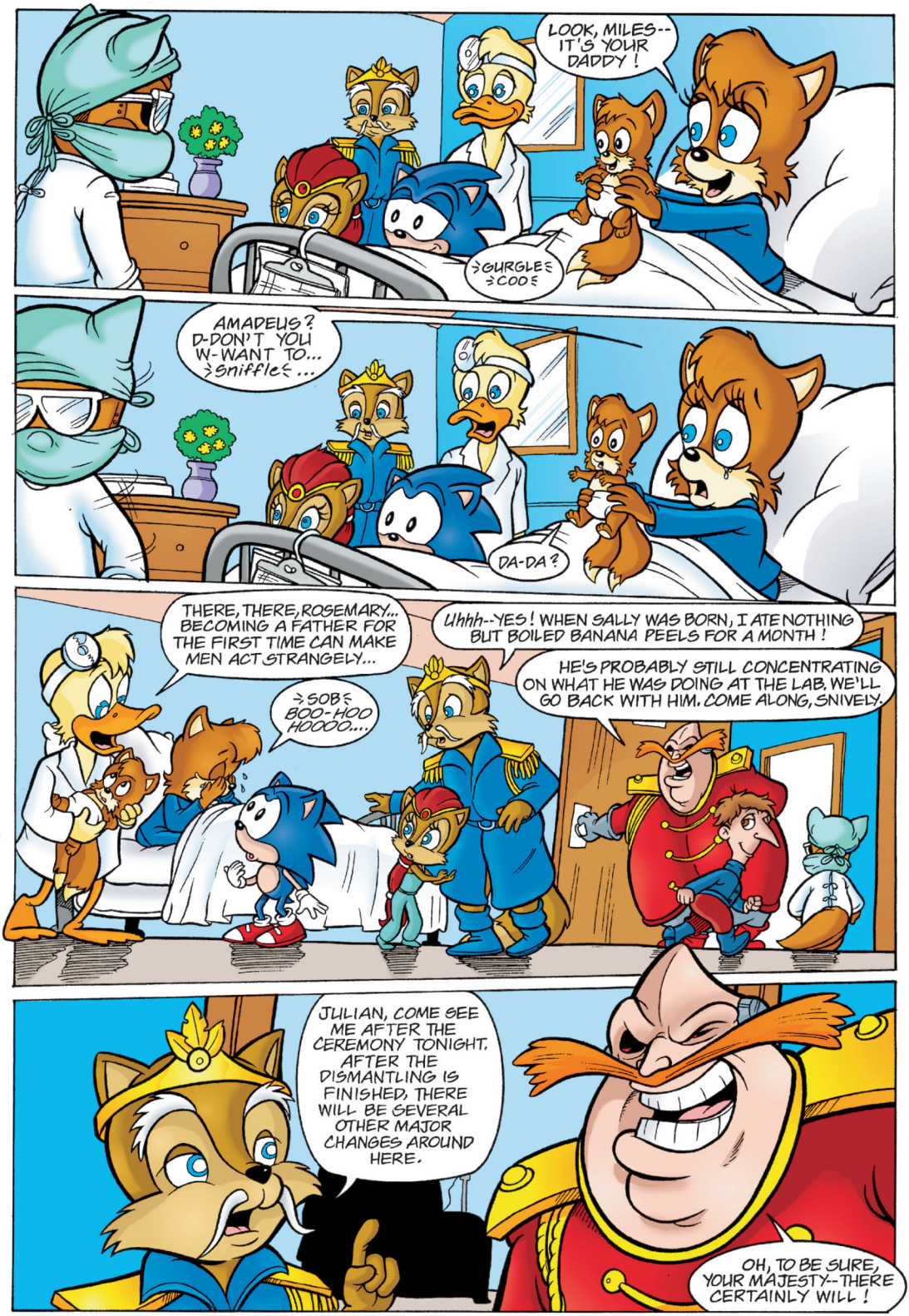
MEANWHILE...
AT LAST, SNIVELY! SIR CHARLES' LABORATORY IS ALL MINE! OUR MONARCH HAS MADE THE BIGGEST--AND LAST--MISTAKE OF HIS REIGN BY ASSIGNING ME TO DECOMMISSION THIS PLACE!
ARE YOU GOING TO ELIMINATE KING ACORN-BALL, UNCLE JULIAN?
NO, THAT WOULD BE FAR TOO SIMPLE. INSTEAD, I SHALL SENTENCE HIS MAJESTY TO AN ETERNITY OF TORTUROUS SOLITUDE INSIDE THE ZONE OF SILENCE! AS I DID WITH WARLORD KODOS.
BUT FIRST THINGS FIRST... SIR CHARLES' MASTERPIECE--*THE ROBOTICIZER*! HAVE WE PRODUCED A VOLUNTEER, SNIVELY?
RIGHT HERE, OH OVAL ONE!

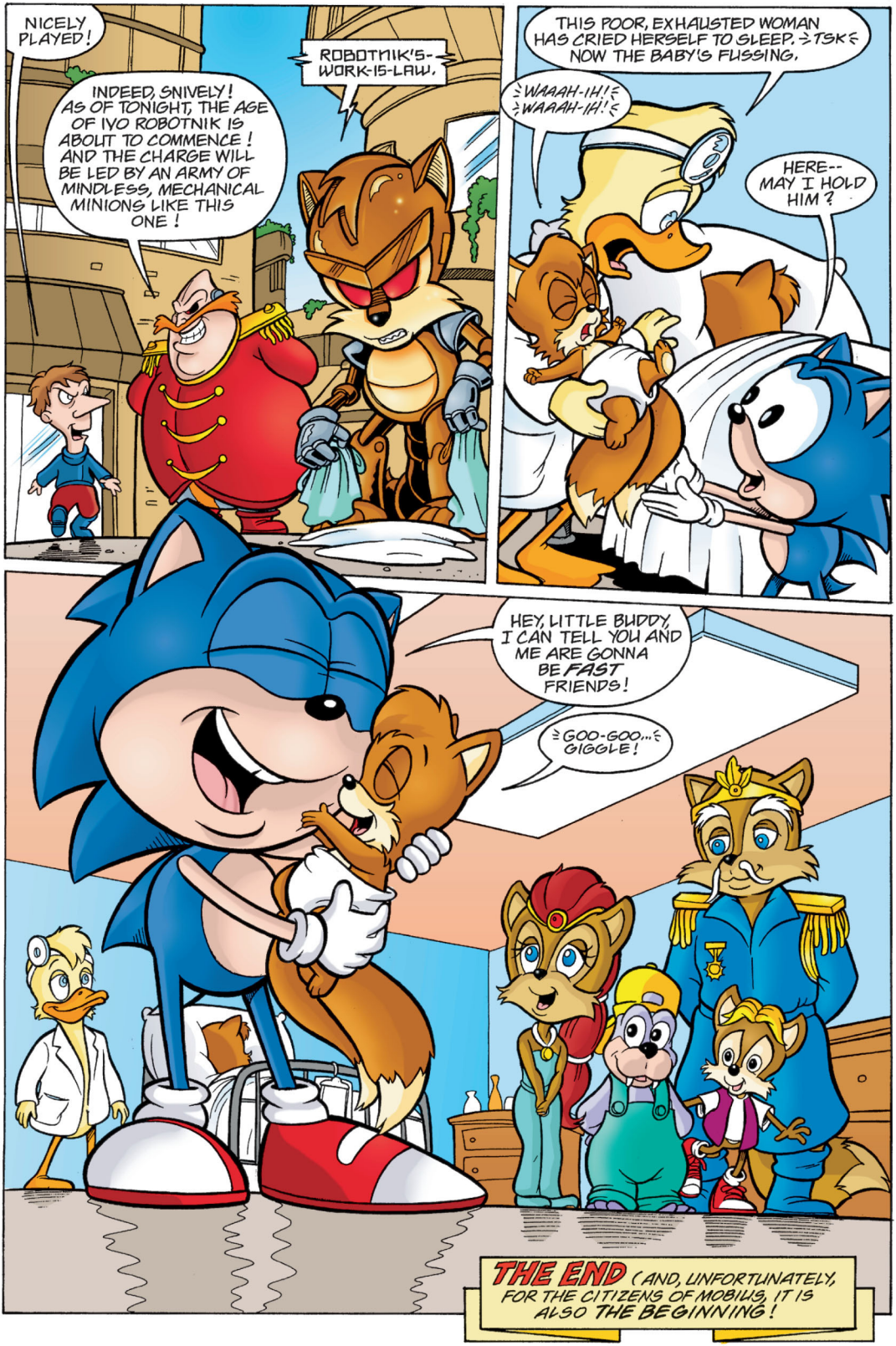

AT THAT MOMENT, OUTSIDE THE LAB...
NO ADMITTANCE WITHOUT ROYAL GUARD ESCORT. NO EXCEPTIONS, BY ORDER OF KING ACORN.
STRANGE... MINISTER JULIAN WAS SUPPOSED TO MEET ME HERE. HE KNOWS IT'S A VIOLATION TO GO INSIDE UNESCORTED.
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THERE? I'D BETTER INVESTIGATE!
NO! DON'T-- PLEASE! NOOOO...
IT'S WORKING, SNIVELY! SIR CHARLES' INVENTION TURNS FLESH AND BLOOD INTO NUTS AND BOLTS! BEST OF ALL, FREE WILL IS REPLACED WITH MINDLESS DEVOTION TO ME!
YOUR VILE VISION FOR ENSLAVING PLANET MOBIUS WILL SOON BE REALITY!
BY THE KING'S SWORD! JULIAN AND HIS ASSISTANT ARE TRAITORS! I MUST STOP THEM!
YOUR-WISH-IS-MY-COMMAND.
CACKLE! OH, MY WISH IS ABOUT TO COME TRUE! A WORLD POPULATED BY MECHANICAL CREATURES AND RULED BY ME!
WRONG, OVERLANDER!

JULIAN KINTOBOR OF THE HOUSE OF IVO, YOU'RE UNDER ARREST--YOU TOO, SNIVELY KINTOBOR. AS FOR THAT HORRID CREATURE YOU JUST CREATED, HE'LL BE `EXHIBIT A' AT YOUR TREASON TRIAL!
I SINCERELY DOUBT THAT, COMMANDER PROWER... AND PLEASE--CALL ME "DR. IVO ROBOTNIK!!! "DR. JULIAN KINTOBOR" JUST DOESN'T HAVE THAT RING OF TERROR I WANT IN MY NAME!
GULP!
YOU SEE, I'VE BEEN PLANNING THIS MUTINY FOR A LONG TIME,
THIS MECHA-BEAVER ISN'T THE FIRST MECHANICAL MINION I'VE CREATED...
I'M WARNING YOU, JULIAN--
--OR ROBOTNIK--OR WHATEVER! STAY STILL OR I'LL BE FORCED TO USE THIS OVERLANDER WEAPON!
ALTHOUGH I DIDN'T COME UP WITH SIR CHARLES' CLEVER ROBOTICIZER, I HAVE PERFECTED A ROBO-PROTOTYPE OF ANOTHER KIND...
FOR THE LAST TIME--
I CALL IT A "SWATBOT!"
EEEEEEYAAAA--


AT THE SAME MOMENT:
EEEEYAAAA--
JUMPING CHILI BEANS! THAT SCREAM CAME FROM MRS. PROWER! C'MON, GUYS!
ARRRGH!
COMING, MRS. PROWER!
I THINK I KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE, YOU TWO DOUBLE BACK AND GET MY WAGON--QUICK!
RIGHT!
OOOOhhh--THE BABY'S COMING! I--} huff-puff} --HAVE TO GET TO DR. QUACK'S INFIRMARY!
SHE'S IN LABOR! THERE'S NO WAY SHE CAN WALK, SALLY!
DON'T WORRY, MRS. PROWER--WE'LL GET YOU THERE!
HURRY, SONIC. HER CONTRACTIONS ARE HAPPENING FASTER!
uhhhngh...
'FASTER' IS MY MIDDLE NAME! HANG ON, LADIES!
ZROOOSH!!


A SHORT WHILE LATER:
YOU'RE DOING FINE, MRS. PROWER. YOU GOT HERE JUST IN TIME.
I NEVER WOULD HAVE MADE IT IF IT WASN'T FOR THE PRINCESS AND HER FRIENDS.
YES, I'M VERY PROUD OF YOU, CHILDREN!
THANKS, DADDY!
LET ME SEE MY LATEST SUBJECT... HELLO, LITTLE MILES! Awww--HE HAS YOUR TAIL, ROSEMARY!
ACTUALLY, HE HAS BOTH HIS PARENTS' TAILS!
SACRE-BLEU--DEUX!*
*"TWO" IN FRENCH--EDITOR
SPEAKING OF THE BOY'S FATHER, WHERE IS AMADEUS?
I CALLED THE LAB, MINISTER JULIAN SAID HE WAS HELPING THEM WITH A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT AND THEY'D BE HERE SOON.
HERE THEY COME!
SORRY WE'RE LATE, COMMANDER PROWER WAS IN--ERR--A CONTAMINATED ROOM... BUT AS SOON AS WE HEARD, WE RUSHED OVER HERE!
WE WANT TO KEEP HIM STERILE SO THERE'S NO RISK TO THE BABY!
A WISE IDEA.
COME SEE YOUR SON, DARLING!


LOOK, MILES-- IT'S YOUR DADDY!
≥GURGLE≤ ≥COO≤
AMADEUS? D-DON'T YOU W-WANT TO... ≥sniffle≤ ...
DA-DA?
THERE, THERE, ROSEMARY... BECOMING A FATHER FOR THE FIRST TIME CAN MAKE MEN ACT STRANGELY...
≥SOB≤ BOO-HOO HOOOO...
Uhhh--YES! WHEN SALLY WAS BORN, I ATE NOTHING BUT BOILED BANANA PEELS FOR A MONTH!
HE'S PROBABLY STILL CONCENTRATING ON WHAT HE WAS DOING AT THE LAB. WE'LL GO BACK WITH HIM. COME ALONG, SNIVELY.
JULIAN, COME SEE ME AFTER THE CEREMONY TONIGHT. AFTER THE DISMANTLING IS FINISHED, THERE WILL BE SEVERAL OTHER MAJOR CHANGES AROUND HERE.
OH, TO BE SURE, YOUR MAJESTY--THERE CERTAINLY WILL!


NICELY PLAYED!
INDEED, SNIVELY! AS OF TONIGHT, THE AGE OF IVO ROBOTNIK IS ABOUT TO COMMENCE! AND THE CHARGE WILL BE LED BY AN ARMY OF MINDLESS, MECHANICAL MINIONS LIKE THIS ONE!
ROBOTNIK'S-WORK-IS-LAW.
THIS POOR, EXHAUSTED WOMAN HAS CRIED HERSELF TO SLEEP. ≥TSK≤ NOW THE BABY'S FUSSING.
≥WAAAH-IH!≤ ≥WAAAH-IH!≤
HERE-- MAY I HOLD HIM?
HEY, LITTLE BUDDY, I CAN TELL YOU AND ME ARE GONNA BE FAST FRIENDS!
≥GOO-GOO...≤ GIGGLE!
THE END (AND, UNFORTUNATELY, FOR THE CITIZENS OF MOBIUS, IT IS ALSO THE BEGINNING!

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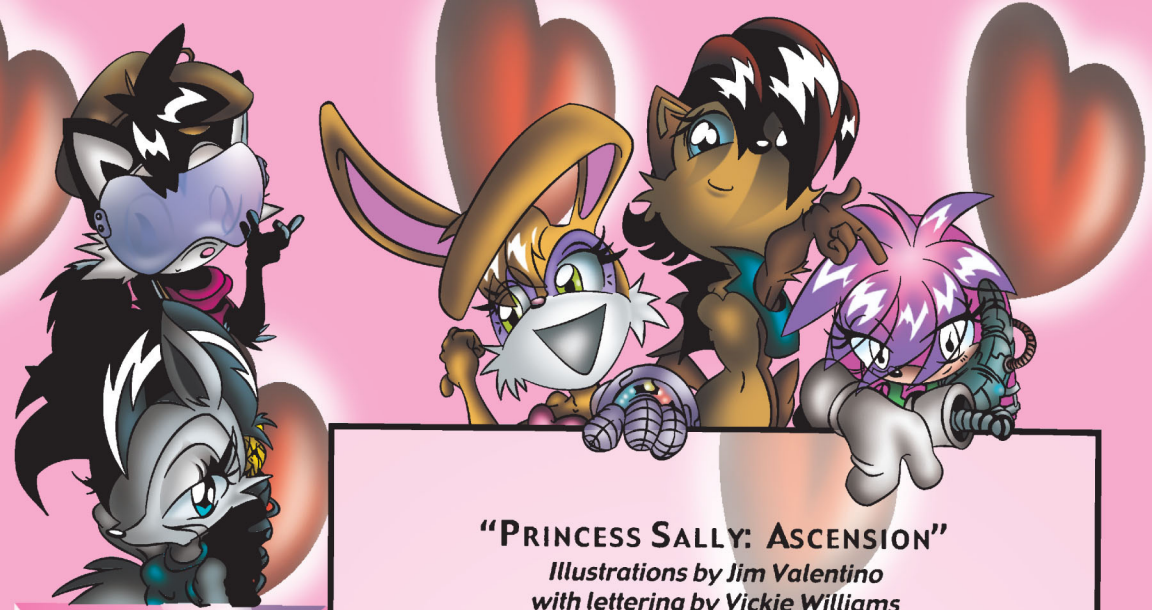

GIRLS!

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with lettering by Vickie Williams

"HERSHEY: SOLO"
Illustrations and lettering by Ken Penders

"LUPE: FAMILY"
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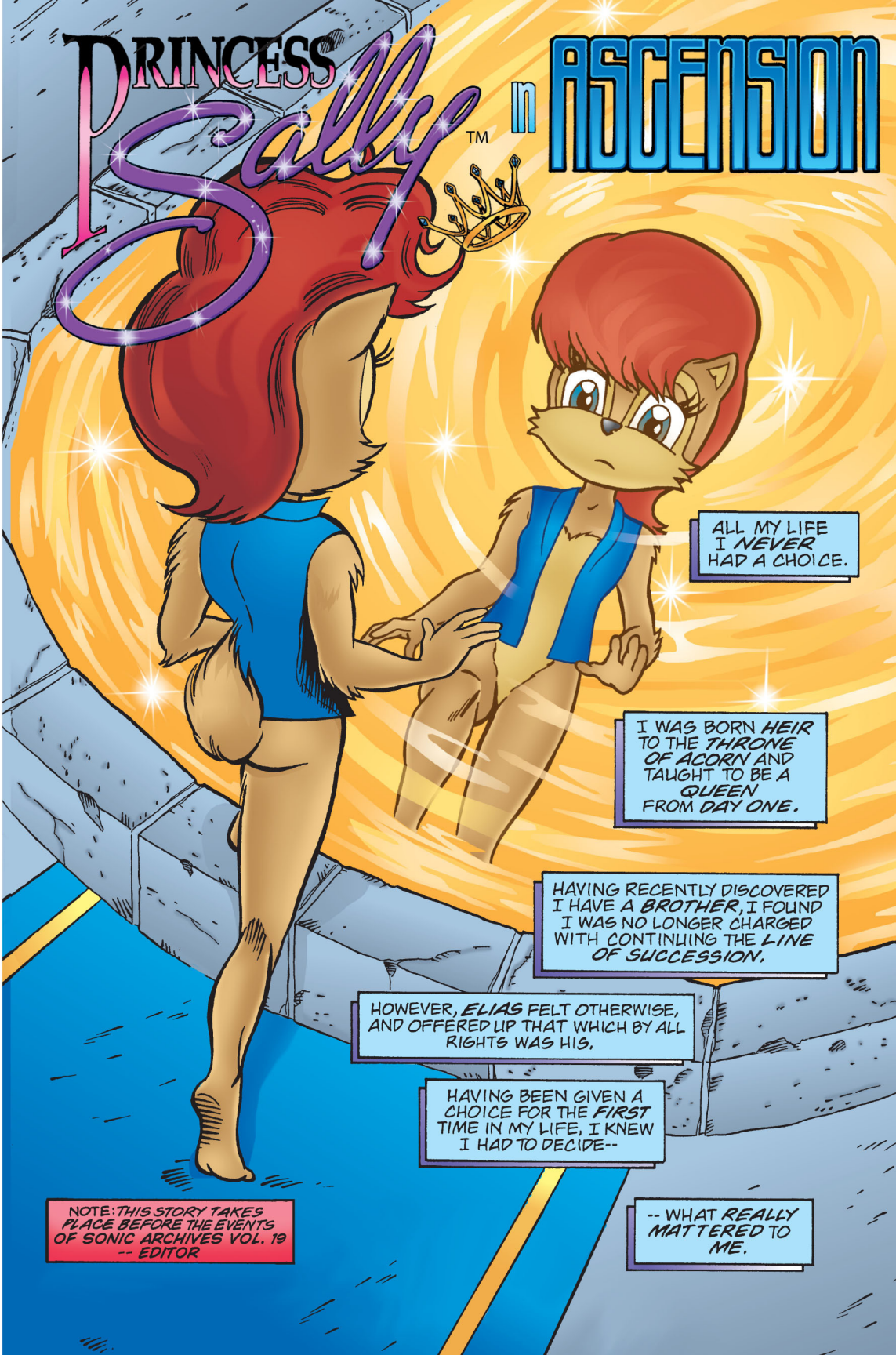
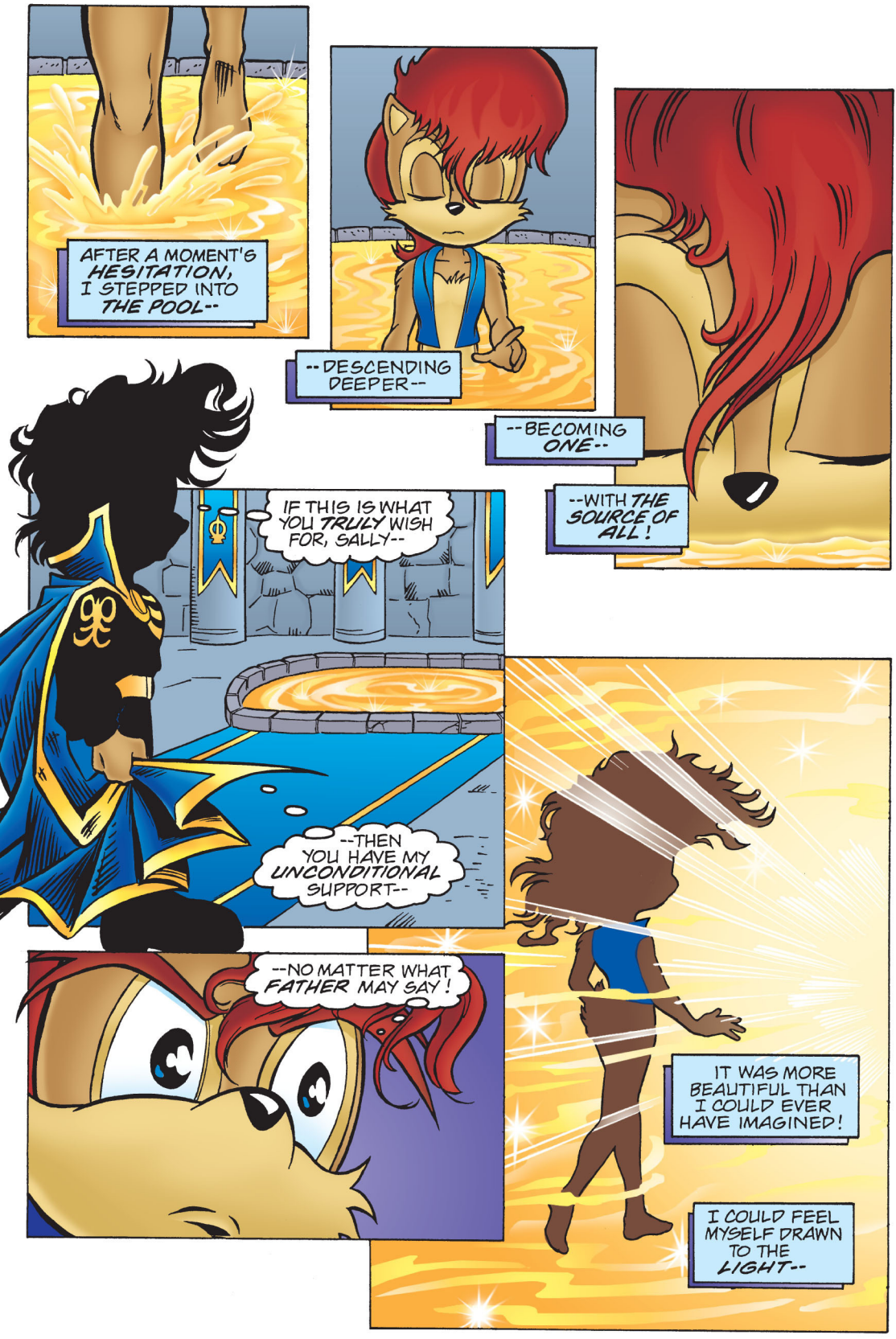
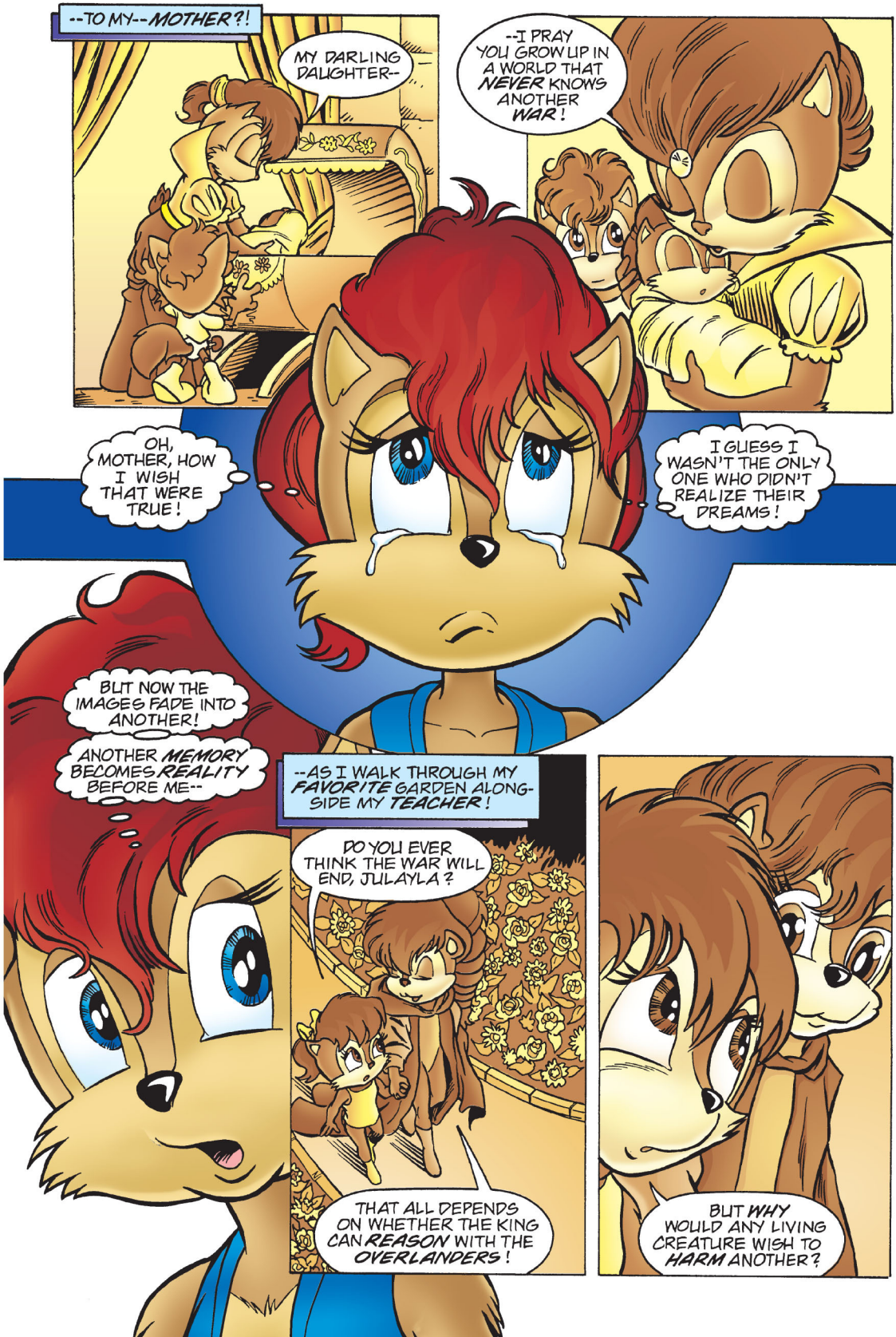
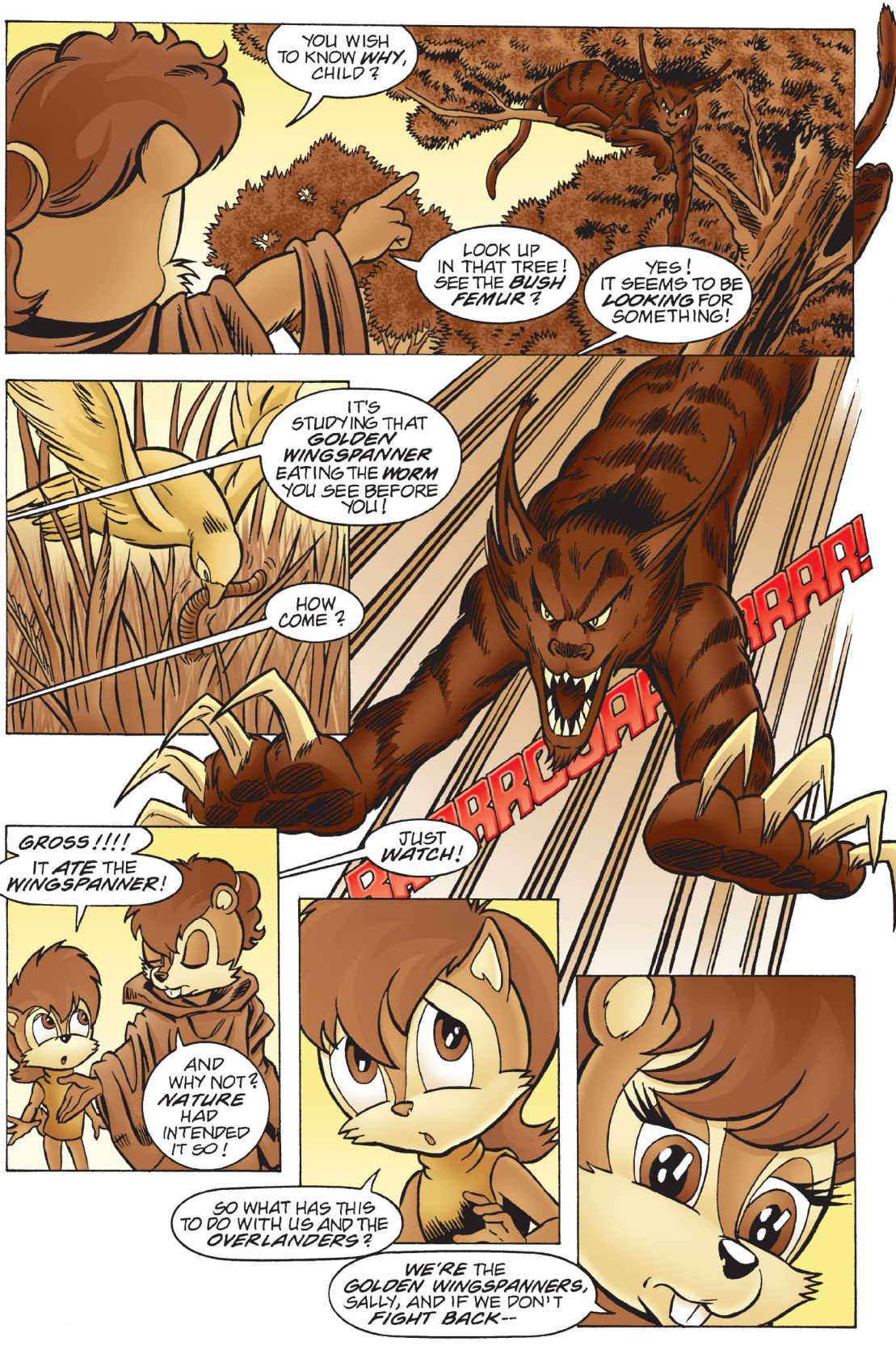
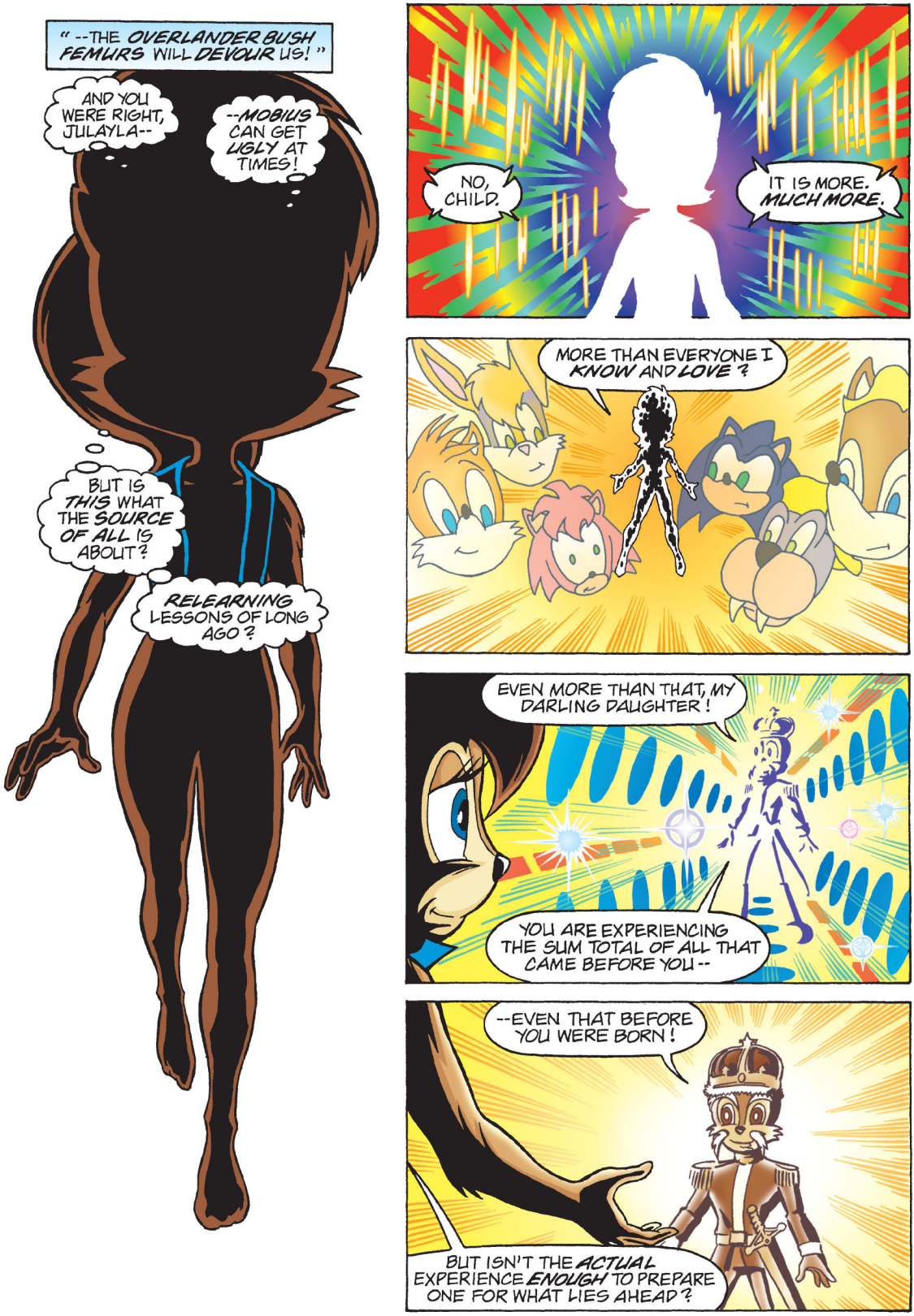
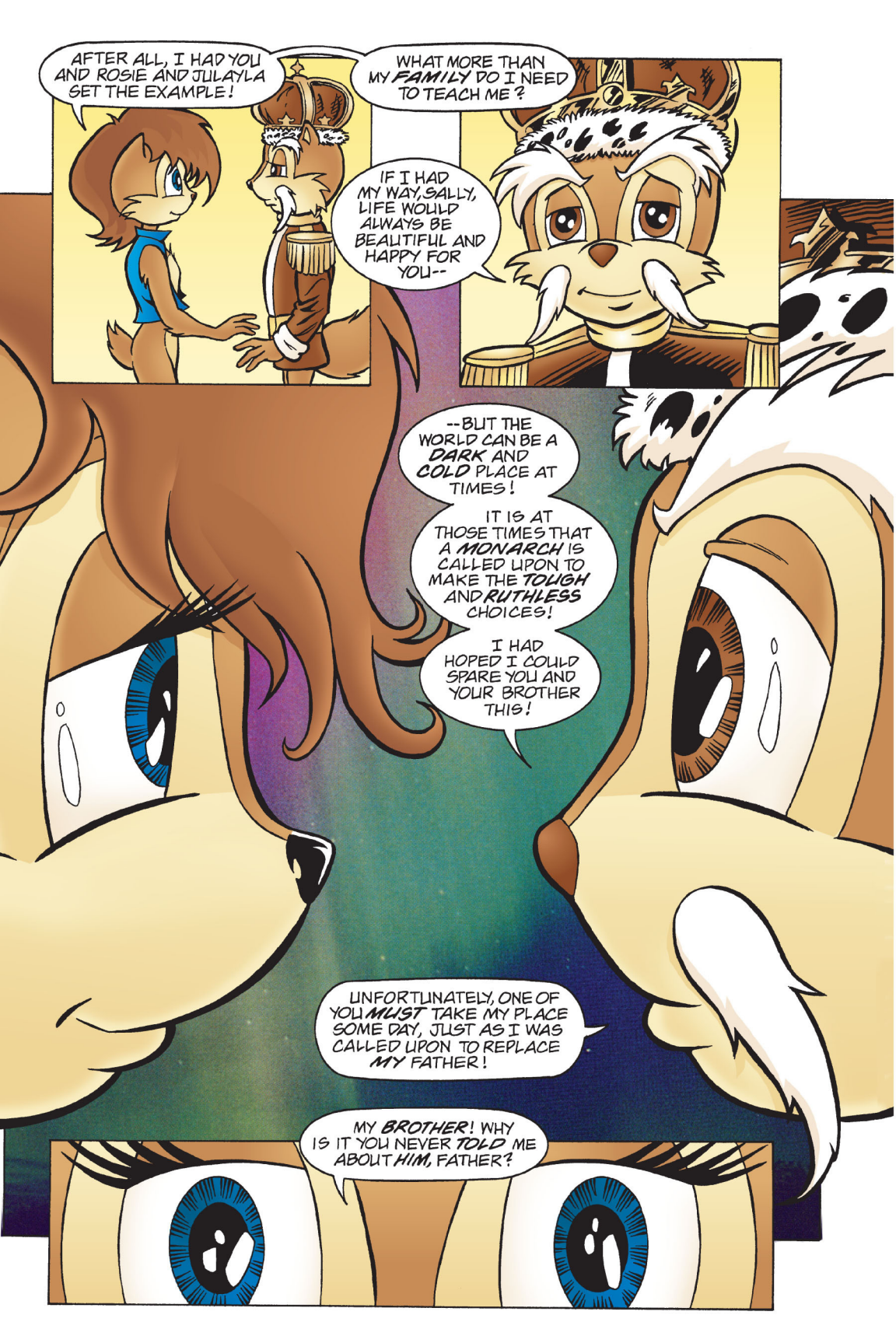

PRINCESS Sally™ in ASCENSION
ALL MY LIFE I NEVER HAD A CHOICE.
I WAS BORN HEIR TO THE THRONE OF ACORN AND TAUGHT TO BE A QUEEN FROM DAY ONE.
HAVING RECENTLY DISCOVERED I HAVE A BROTHER, I FOUND I WAS NO LONGER CHARGED WITH CONTINUING THE LINE OF SUCCESSION.
HOWEVER, ELIAS FELT OTHERWISE, AND OFFERED UP THAT WHICH BY ALL RIGHTS WAS HIS.
HAVING BEEN GIVEN A CHOICE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, I KNEW I HAD TO DECIDE--
-- WHAT REALLY MATTERED TO ME.
NOTE: THIS STORY TAKES PLACE BEFORE THE EVENTS OF SONIC ARCHIVES VOL. 19 -- EDITOR

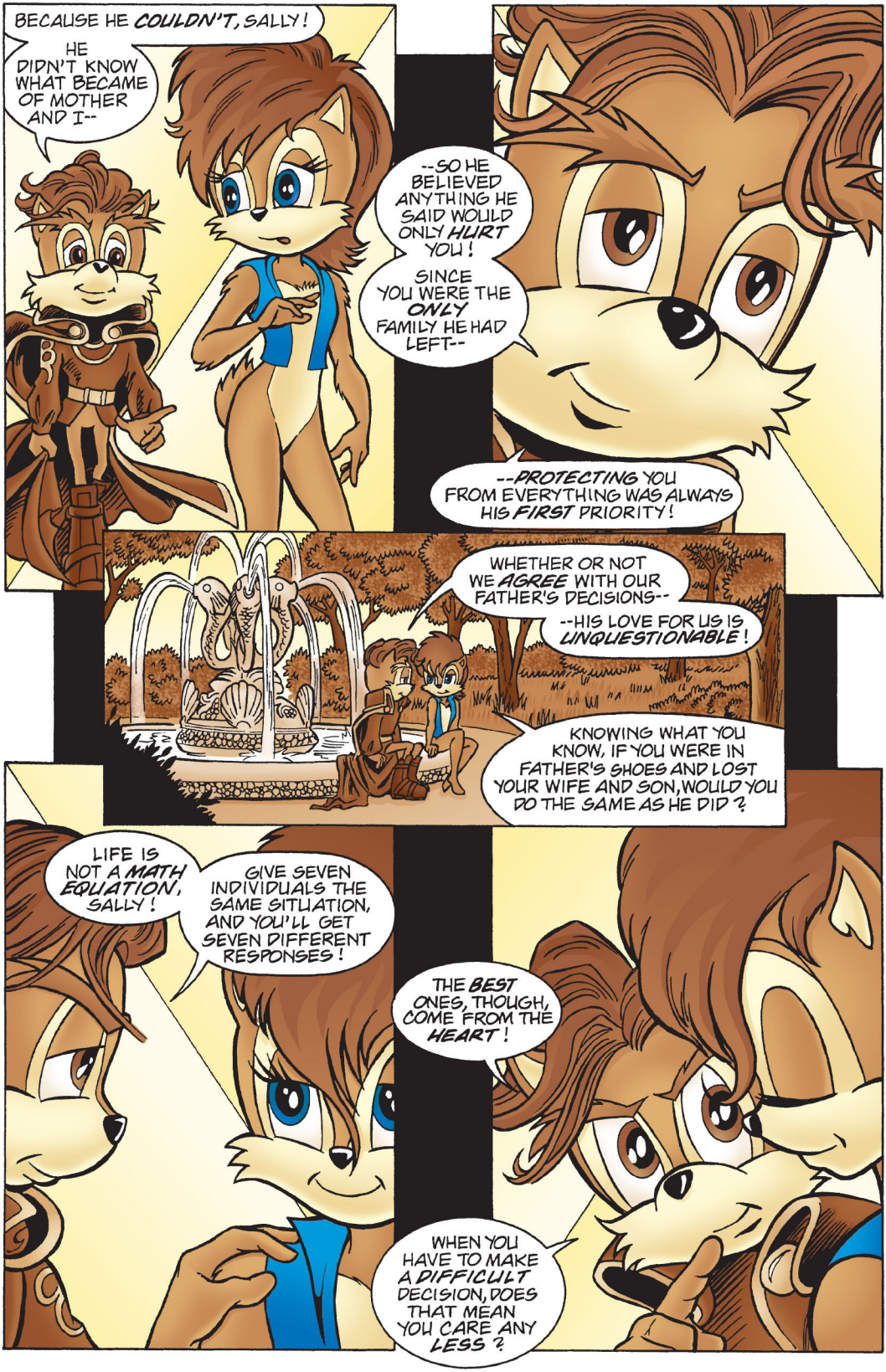

AFTER A MOMENT'S HESITATION, I STEPPED INTO THE POOL--
--DESCENDING DEEPER--
--BECOMING ONE--
--WITH THE SOURCE OF ALL!
IF THIS IS WHAT YOU TRULY WISH FOR, SALLY--
--THEN YOU HAVE MY UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT--
--NO MATTER WHAT FATHER MAY SAY!
IT WAS MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN I COULD EVER HAVE IMAGINED!
I COULD FEEL MYSELF DRAWN TO THE LIGHT--

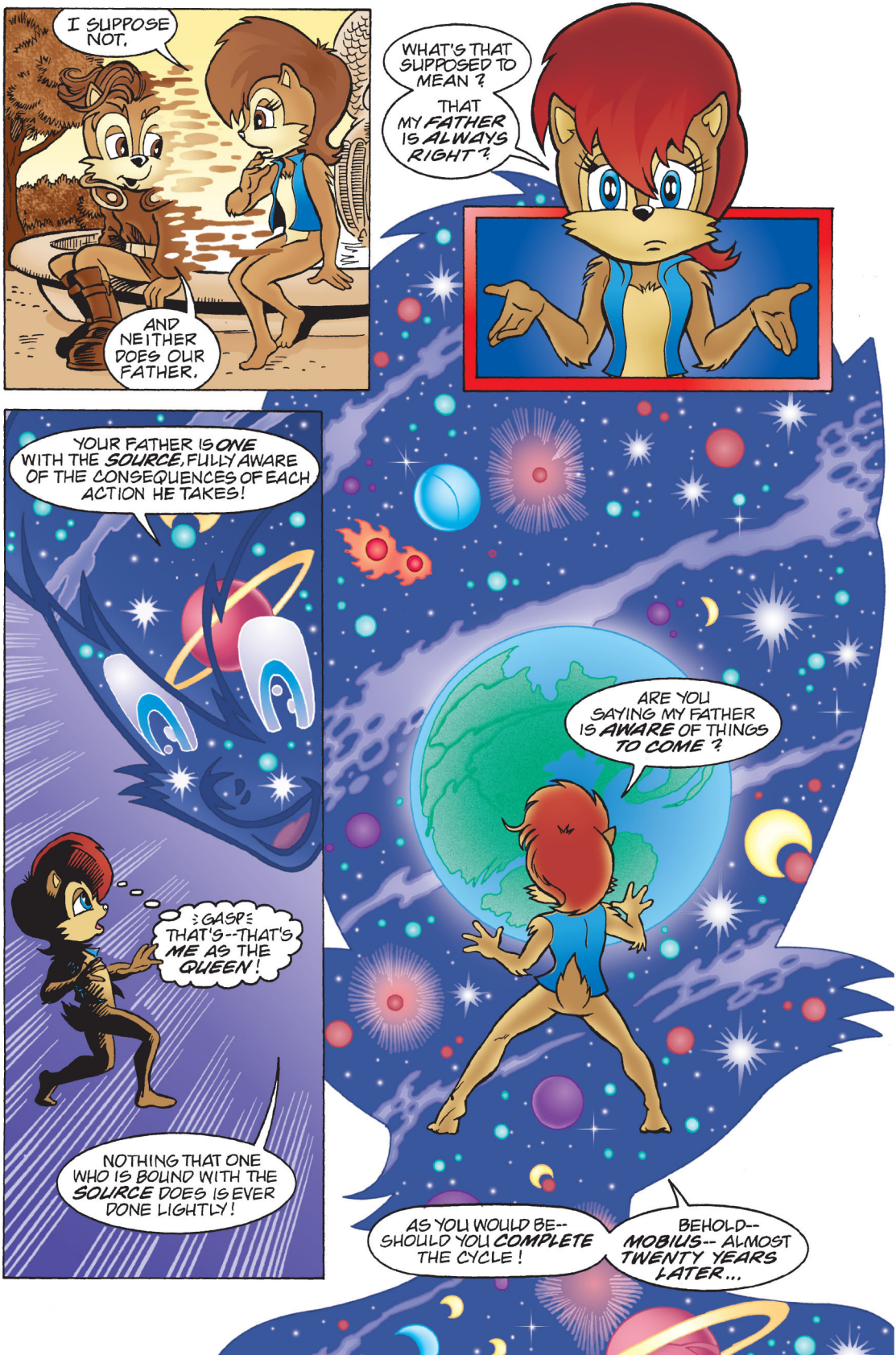

--TO MY--MOTHER?!
MY DARLING DAUGHTER--
--I PRAY YOU GROW UP IN A WORLD THAT NEVER KNOWS ANOTHER WAR!
OH, MOTHER, HOW I WISH THAT WERE TRUE!
I GUESS I WASN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T REALIZE THEIR DREAMS!
BUT NOW THE IMAGES FADE INTO ANOTHER!
ANOTHER MEMORY BECOMES REALITY BEFORE ME--
--AS I WALK THROUGH MY FAVORITE GARDEN ALONGSIDE MY TEACHER!
DO YOU EVER THINK THE WAR WILL END, JULAYLA?
THAT ALL DEPENDS ON WHETHER THE KING CAN REASON WITH THE OVERLANDERS!
BUT WHY WOULD ANY LIVING CREATURE WISH TO HARM ANOTHER?

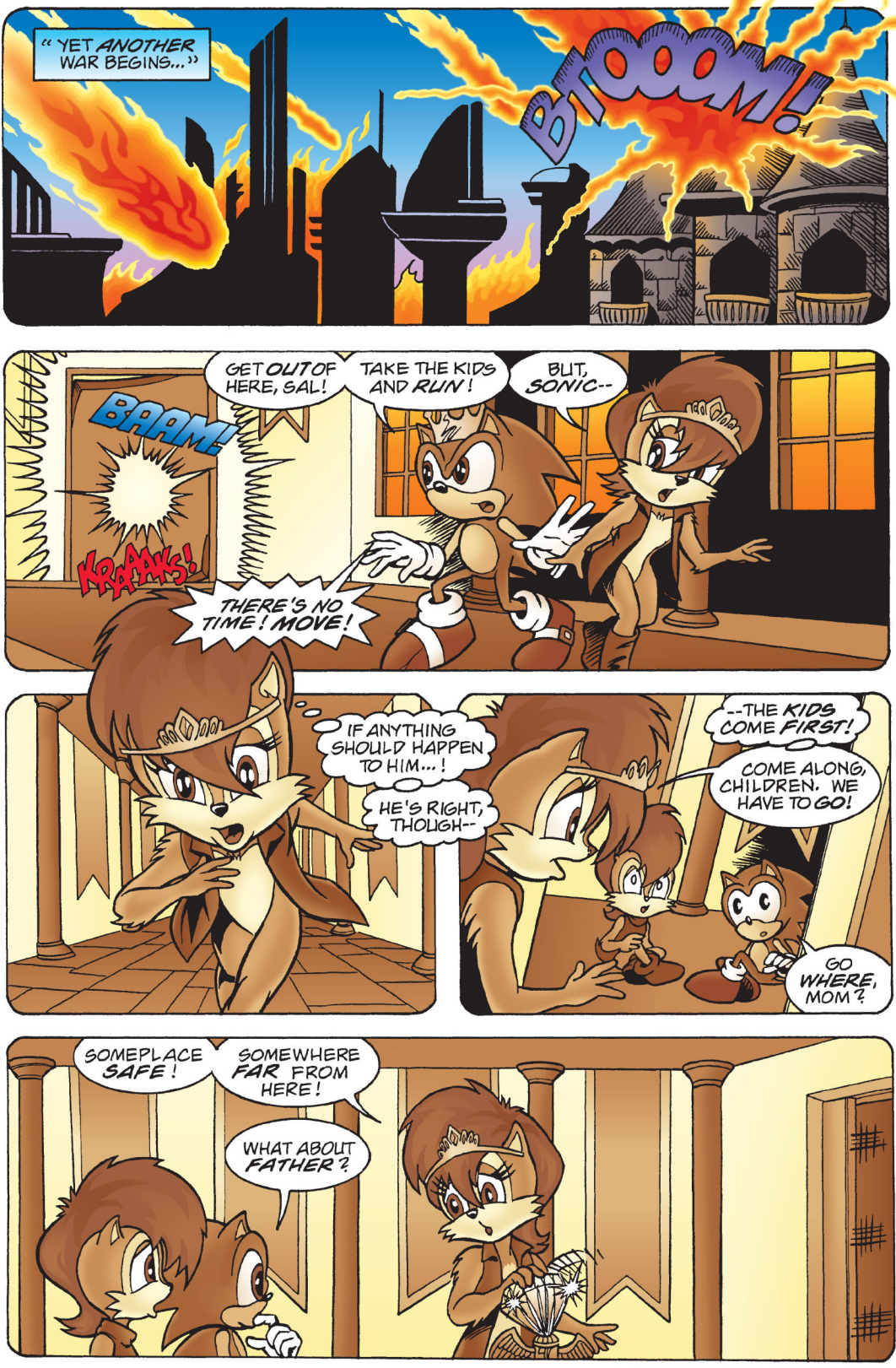

YOU WISH TO KNOW WHY, CHILD?
LOOK UP IN THAT TREE! SEE THE BUSH FEMUR?
YES! IT SEEMS TO BE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING!
IT'S STUDYING THAT GOLDEN WINGSPANNER EATING THE WORM YOU SEE BEFORE YOU!
HOW COME?
RRRA!
JUST WATCH!
GROSS!!!! IT ATE THE WINGSPANNER!
AND WHY NOT? NATURE HAD INTENDED IT SO!
SO WHAT HAS THIS TO DO WITH US AND THE OVERLANDERS?
WE'RE THE GOLDEN WINGSPANNERS, SALLY, AND IF WE DON'T FIGHT BACK--

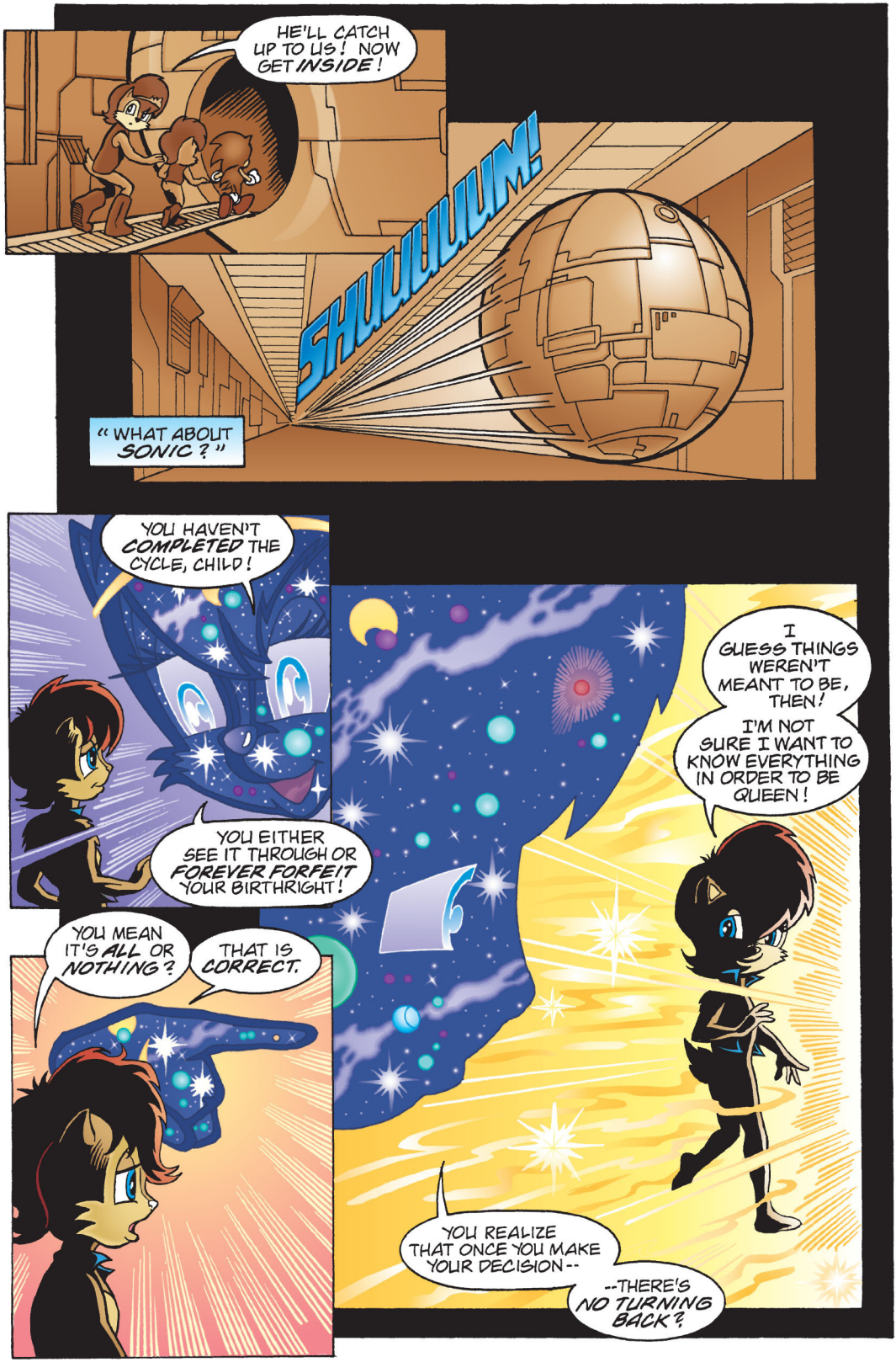

" --THE OVERLANDER BUSH FEMURS WILL DEVOUR US! "
AND YOU WERE RIGHT, JULAYLA--
--MOBIUS CAN GET UGLY AT TIMES!
BUT IS THIS WHAT THE SOURCE OF ALL IS ABOUT?
RELEARNING LESSONS OF LONG AGO?
NO, CHILD.
IT IS MORE. MUCH MORE.
MORE THAN EVERYONE I KNOW AND LOVE?
EVEN MORE THAN THAT, MY DARLING DAUGHTER!
YOU ARE EXPERIENCING THE SUM TOTAL OF ALL THAT CAME BEFORE YOU--
--EVEN THAT BEFORE YOU WERE BORN!
BUT ISN'T THE ACTUAL EXPERIENCE ENOUGH TO PREPARE ONE FOR WHAT LIES AHEAD?

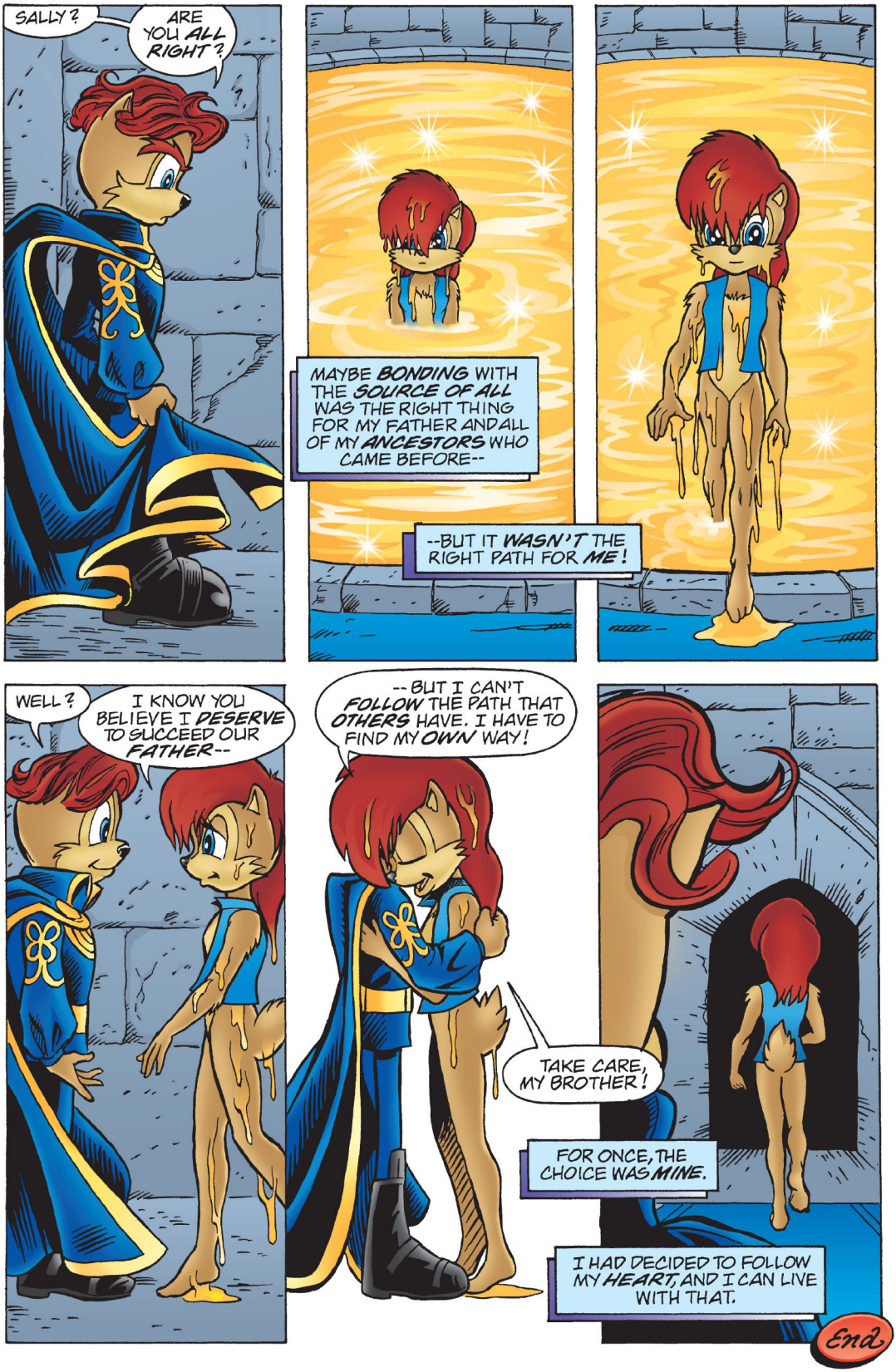

AFTER ALL, I HAD YOU AND ROSIE AND JULAYLA SET THE EXAMPLE!
WHAT MORE THAN MY FAMILY DO I NEED TO TEACH ME?
IF I HAD MY WAY, SALLY, LIFE WOULD ALWAYS BE BEAUTIFUL AND HAPPY FOR YOU--
--BUT THE WORLD CAN BE A DARK AND COLD PLACE AT TIMES!
IT IS AT THOSE TIMES THAT A MONARCH IS CALLED UPON TO MAKE THE TOUGH AND RUTHLESS CHOICES!
I HAD HOPED I COULD SPARE YOU AND YOUR BROTHER THIS!
UNFORTUNATELY, ONE OF YOU MUST TAKE MY PLACE SOME DAY, JUST AS I WAS CALLED UPON TO REPLACE MY FATHER!
MY BROTHER! WHY IS IT YOU NEVER TOLD ME ABOUT HIM, FATHER?


BECAUSE HE COULDN'T, SALLY!
HE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT BECAME OF MOTHER AND I--
--SO HE BELIEVED ANYTHING HE SAID WOULD ONLY HURT YOU!
SINCE YOU WERE THE ONLY FAMILY HE HAD LEFT--
--PROTECTING YOU FROM EVERYTHING WAS ALWAYS HIS FIRST PRIORITY!
WHETHER OR NOT WE AGREE WITH OUR FATHER'S DECISIONS--
--HIS LOVE FOR US IS UNQUESTIONABLE!
KNOWING WHAT YOU KNOW, IF YOU WERE IN FATHER'S SHOES AND LOST YOUR WIFE AND SON, WOULD YOU DO THE SAME AS HE DID?
LIFE IS NOT A MATH EQUATION, SALLY!
GIVE SEVEN INDIVIDUALS THE SAME SITUATION, AND YOU'LL GET SEVEN DIFFERENT RESPONSES!
THE BEST ONES, THOUGH, COME FROM THE HEART!
WHEN YOU HAVE TO MAKE A DIFFICULT DECISION, DOES THAT MEAN YOU CARE ANY LESS?

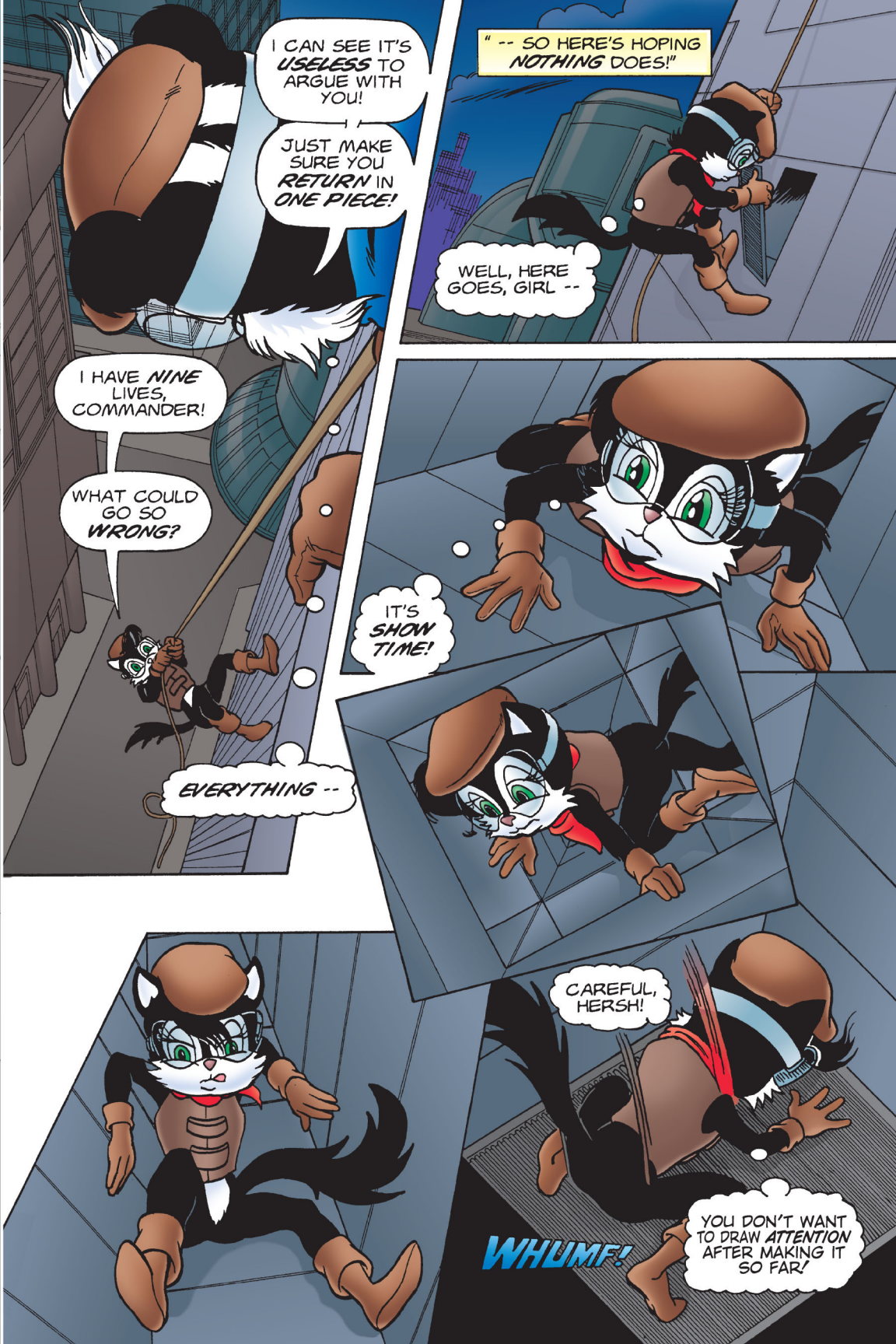

I SUPPOSE NOT.
AND NEITHER DOES OUR FATHER.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
THAT MY FATHER IS ALWAYS RIGHT?
YOUR FATHER IS ONE WITH THE SOURCE, FULLY AWARE OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF EACH ACTION HE TAKES!
ARE YOU SAYING MY FATHER IS AWARE OF THINGS TO COME?
:GASP: THAT'S--THAT'S ME AS THE QUEEN!
NOTHING THAT ONE WHO IS BOUND WITH THE SOURCE DOES IS EVER DONE LIGHTLY!
AS YOU WOULD BE-- SHOULD YOU COMPLETE THE CYCLE!
BEHOLD-- MOBIUS-- ALMOST TWENTY YEARS LATER...

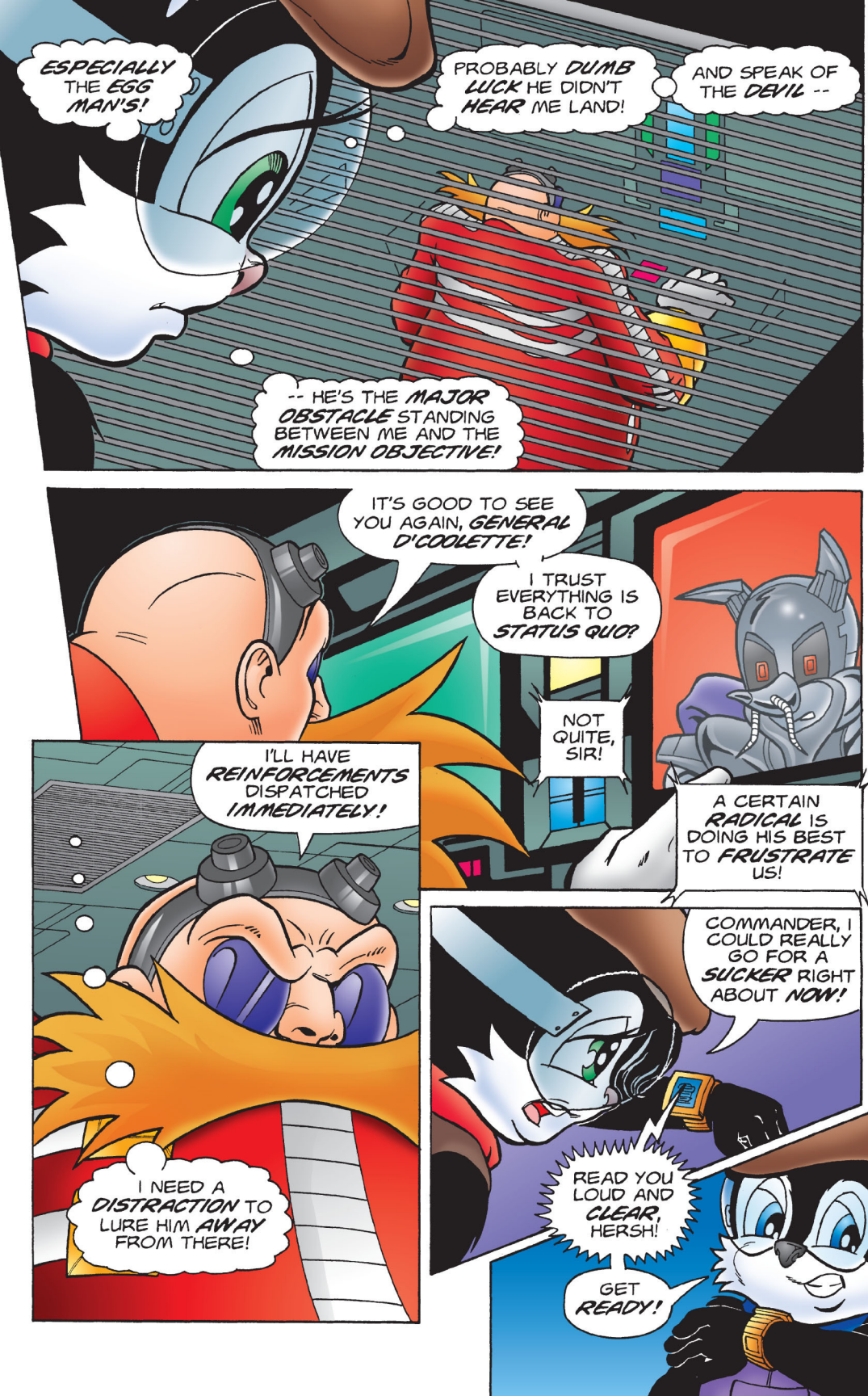

"YET ANOTHER WAR BEGINS..."
BI'OOOM!
GET OUT OF HERE, SAL!
TAKE THE KIDS AND RUN!
BUT, SONIC--
BAAM!
KRAAAKS!
THERE'S NO TIME! MOVE!
IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO HIM...!
HE'S RIGHT, THOUGH--
--THE KIDS COME FIRST!
COME ALONG, CHILDREN. WE HAVE TO GO!
GO WHERE, MOM?
SOMEPLACE SAFE!
SOMEWHERE FAR FROM HERE!
WHAT ABOUT FATHER?


HE'LL CATCH UP TO US! NOW GET INSIDE!
SHUUUUUUM!
"WHAT ABOUT SONIC?"
YOU HAVEN'T COMPLETED THE CYCLE, CHILD!
YOU EITHER SEE IT THROUGH OR FOREVER FORFEIT YOUR BIRTHRIGHT!
YOU MEAN IT'S ALL OR NOTHING?
THAT IS CORRECT.
I GUESS THINGS WEREN'T MEANT TO BE, THEN!
I'M NOT SURE I WANT TO KNOW EVERYTHING IN ORDER TO BE QUEEN!
YOU REALIZE THAT ONCE YOU MAKE YOUR DECISION--
--THERE'S NO TURNING BACK?

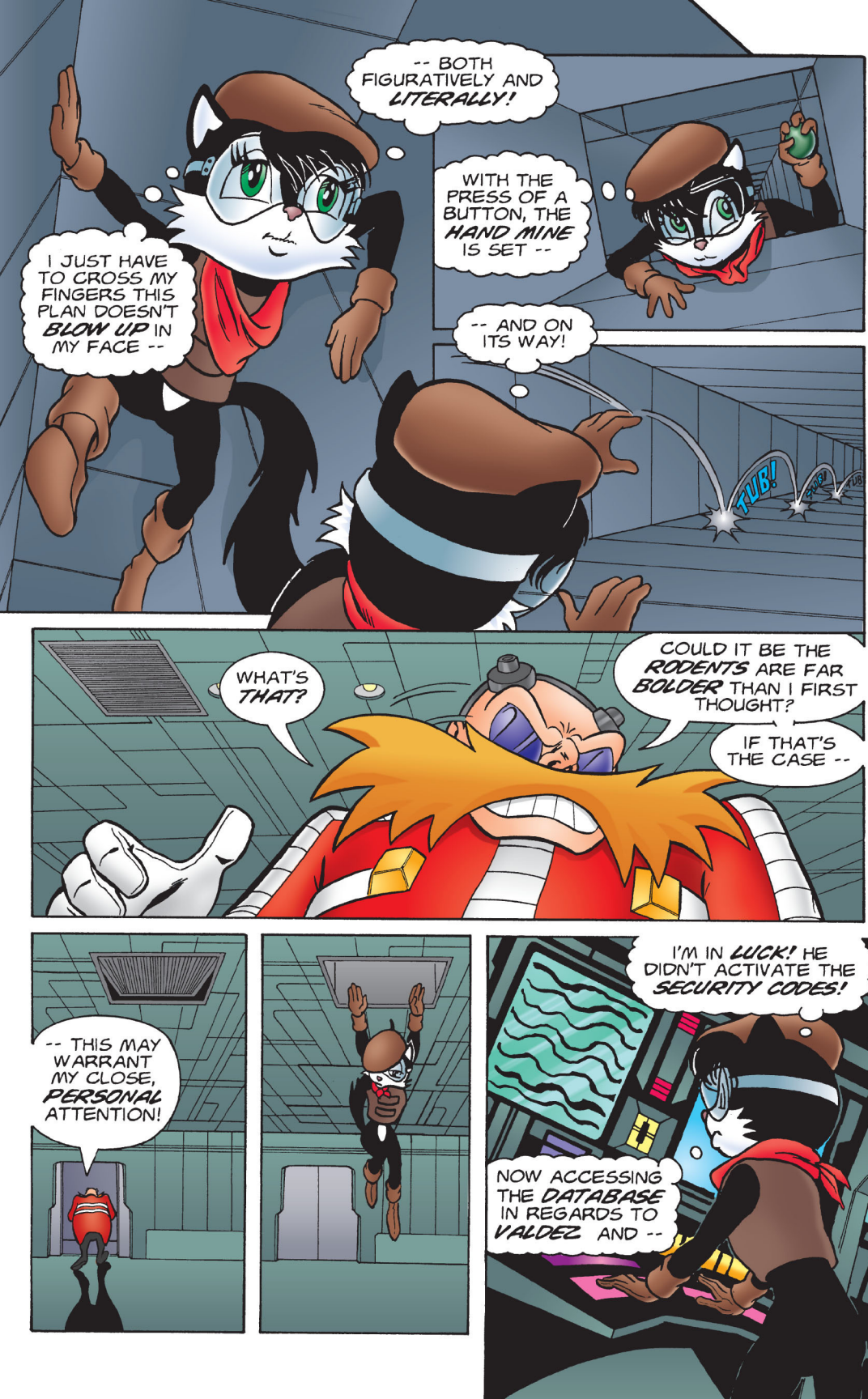

SALLY?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
MAYBE BONDING WITH THE SOURCE OF ALL WAS THE RIGHT THING FOR MY FATHER AND ALL OF MY ANCESTORS WHO CAME BEFORE--
--BUT IT WASN'T THE RIGHT PATH FOR ME!
WELL?
I KNOW YOU BELIEVE I DESERVE TO SUCCEED OUR FATHER--
-- BUT I CAN'T FOLLOW THE PATH THAT OTHERS HAVE. I HAVE TO FIND MY OWN WAY!
TAKE CARE, MY BROTHER!
FOR ONCE, THE CHOICE WAS MINE.
I HAD DECIDED TO FOLLOW MY HEART, AND I CAN LIVE WITH THAT.
End

IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE, HERSH!
YOU CAN TAKE POINT WHILE I GO CRAWLING AROUND THE DRAGON'S DEN INSTEAD!
I CAN DO THIS, COMMANDER!
GETTING THROUGH THE DUCTWORK WILL BE A LOT SMOOTHER FOR ME THAN YOU!
BESIDES, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SUPERVISE US ON EVERY MISSION!
SOONER OR LATER, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO ORDER US TO GO...
HERSHEY™ SOLO

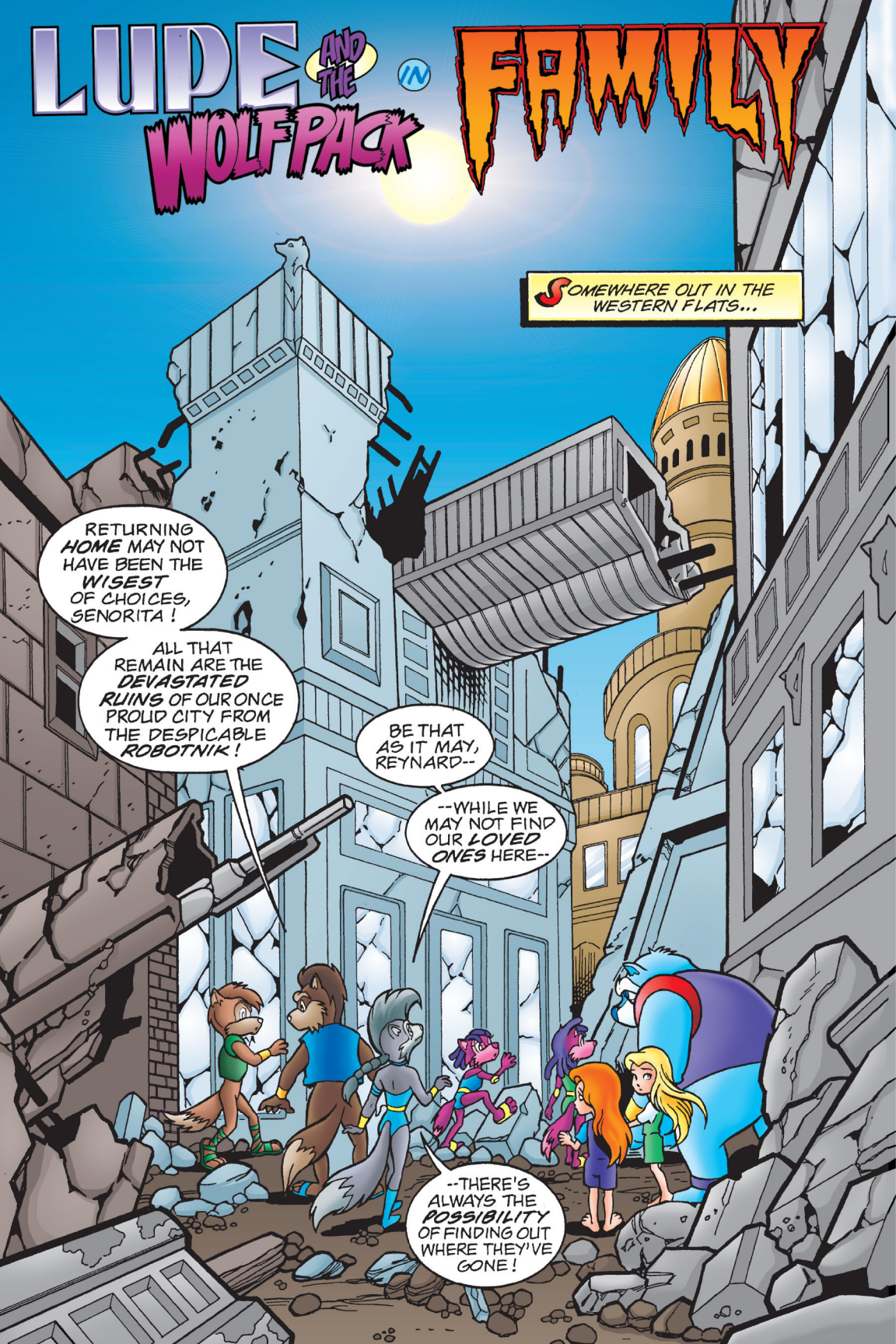

I CAN SEE IT'S USELESS TO ARGUE WITH YOU!
JUST MAKE SURE YOU RETURN IN ONE PIECE!
" -- SO HERE'S HOPING NOTHING DOES!"
WELL, HERE GOES, GIRL --
I HAVE NINE LIVES, COMMANDER!
WHAT COULD GO SO WRONG?
IT'S SHOW TIME!
EVERYTHING --
CAREFUL, HERSH!
WHUMF!
YOU DON'T WANT TO DRAW ATTENTION AFTER MAKING IT SO FAR!

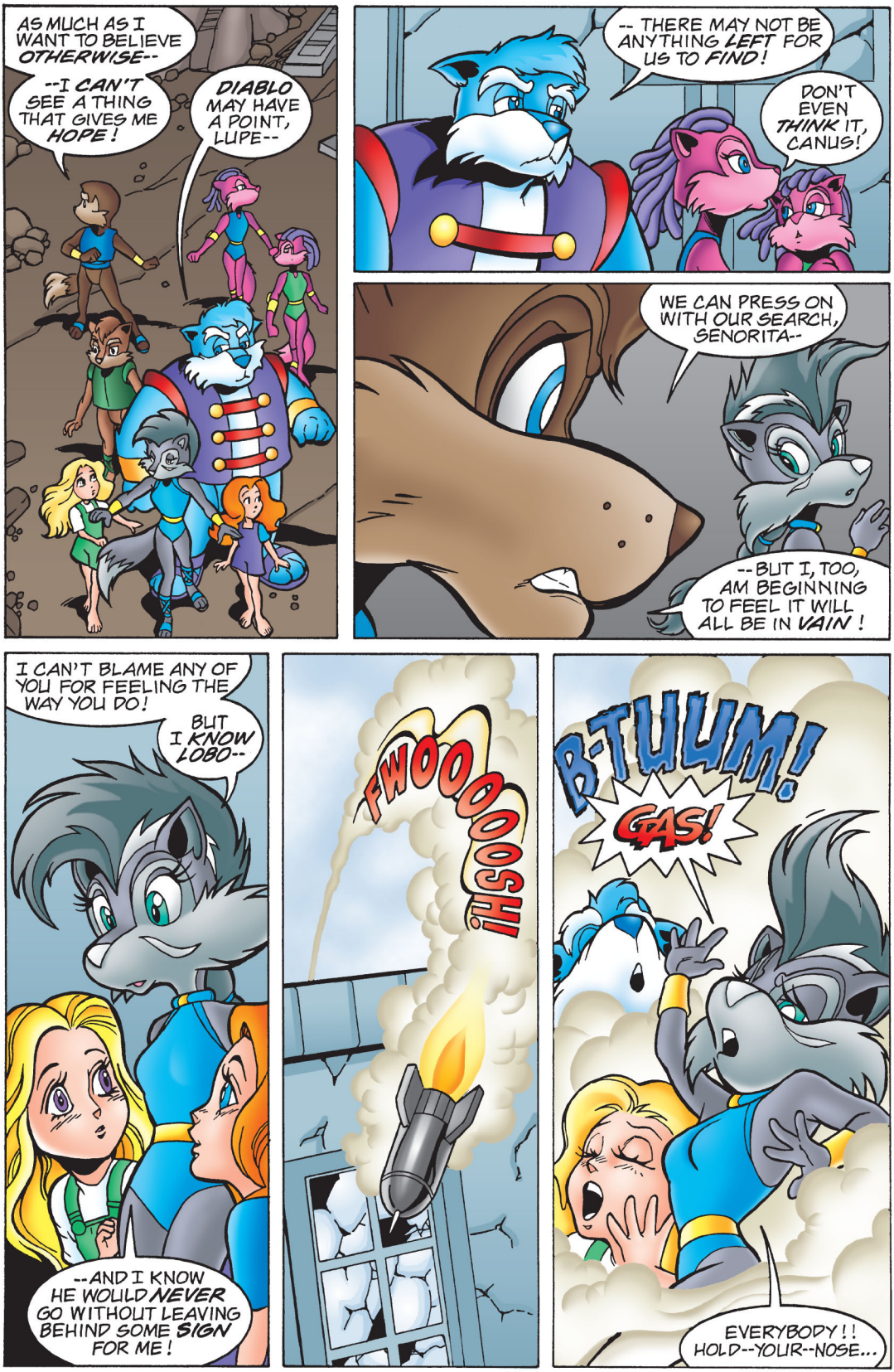

ESPECIALLY THE EGG MAN'S!
PROBABLY DUMB LUCK HE DIDN'T HEAR ME LAND!
AND SPEAK OF THE DEVIL --
-- HE'S THE MAJOR OBSTACLE STANDING BETWEEN ME AND THE MISSION OBJECTIVE!
IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, GENERAL D'COOLETTE!
I TRUST EVERYTHING IS BACK TO STATUS QUO?
NOT QUITE, SIR!
A CERTAIN RADICAL IS DOING HIS BEST TO FRUSTRATE US!
I'LL HAVE REINFORCEMENTS DISPATCHED IMMEDIATELY!
I NEED A DISTRACTION TO LURE HIM AWAY FROM THERE!
COMMANDER, I COULD REALLY GO FOR A SUCKER RIGHT ABOUT NOW!
READ YOU LOUD AND CLEAR, HERSH!
GET READY!

Ka-BOOM!
KLIK!
SO THE RODENTS ARE GETTING FRISKY, ARE THEY?
DELTA TWO AND NINE!
ROGER!
WILCO!
TAKE A SQUADRON OF SHADOWBOTS AND GO PUT OUT THE FIRE!
AND SHOULD YOU ENCOUNTER THAT WRETCHED HEDGEHOG SONIC --
-- BRING HIM TO ME!
THAT SURE DID THE TRICK -- NOT!
SO WHAT NOW?
HMMM...
WHAT IF THE THREAT WERE MORE -- LOCAL?

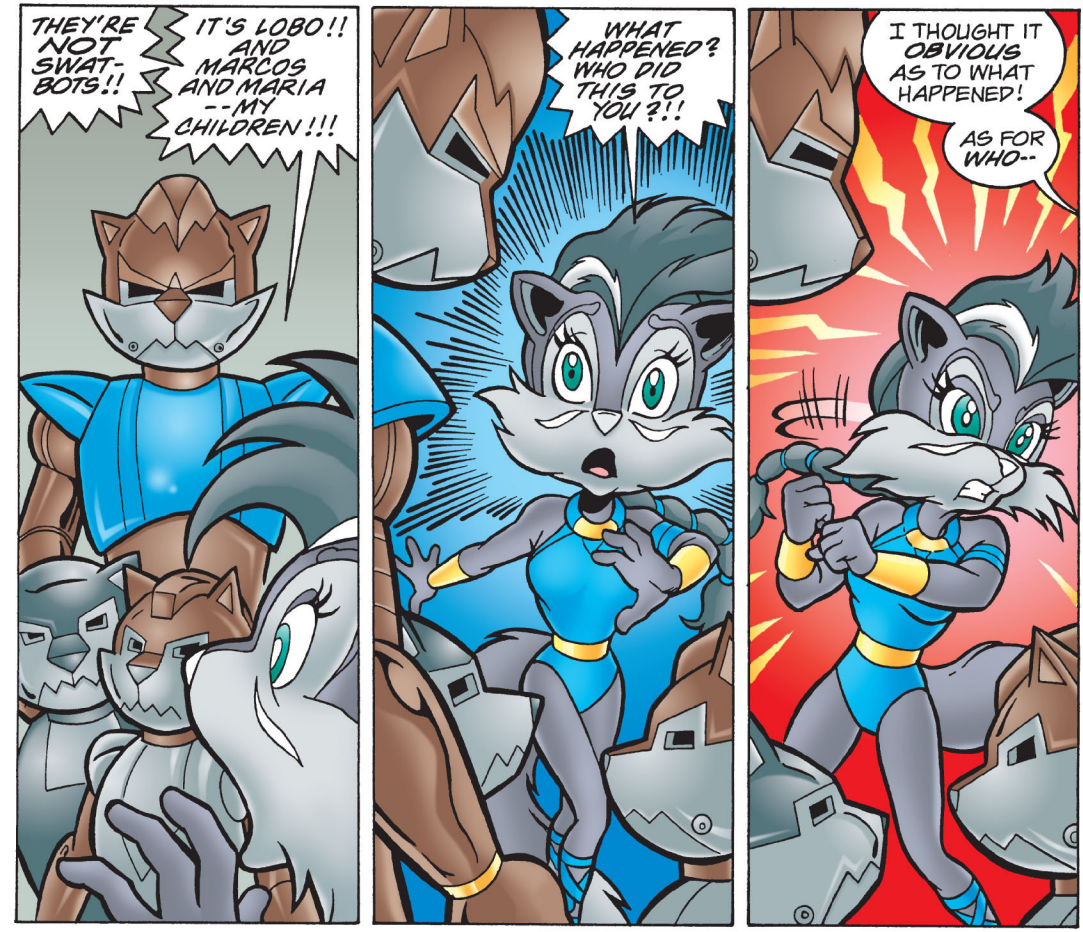

-- BOTH FIGURATIVELY AND LITERALLY!
WITH THE PRESS OF A BUTTON, THE HAND MINE IS SET --
I JUST HAVE TO CROSS MY FINGERS THIS PLAN DOESN'T BLOW UP IN MY FACE --
-- AND ON ITS WAY!
TUB!
WHAT'S THAT?
COULD IT BE THE RODENTS ARE FAR BOLDER THAN I FIRST THOUGHT?
IF THAT'S THE CASE --
-- THIS MAY WARRANT MY CLOSE, PERSONAL ATTENTION!
I'M IN LUCK! HE DIDN'T ACTIVATE THE SECURITY CODES!
NOW ACCESSING THE DATABASE IN REGARDS TO VALDEZ AND --

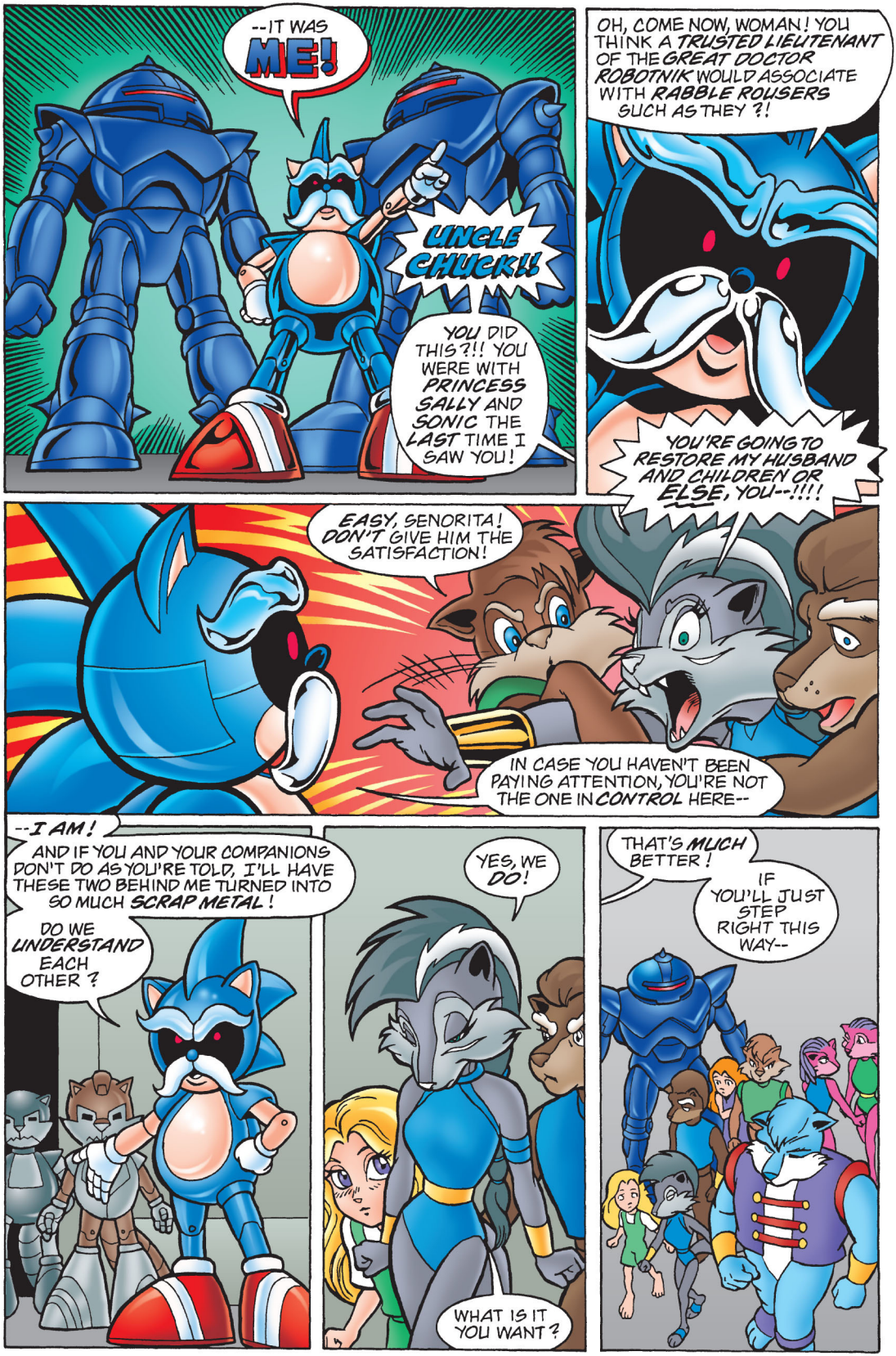
OH, NO -- !
EVEN LEARNING VALDEZ HAD DIED WAS CERTAINLY MORE PREFERABLE --
-- THAN SEEING HIM ROBOTICIZED!
ABOUT TIME SHE GOT OUT!
ANOTHER COUPLE OF MINUTES, AND I'D HAVE GONE IN!
WELL?
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED, COMMANDER!
WE DEFINITELY LOST VALDEZ --
" -- BUT I LEFT ROBOTNIK A MESSAGE -- "
THAT WAS USELESS!
NO SIGN OF TROUBLE ANYWHERE!
"-- THAT PAYBACK WOULD BE COMING --"
TICK...TICK...
THAT'S ODD! I HEAR A SOUND --
BOOM!
" -- NEXT TIME!"


LUPE AND THE WOLFPACK IN FAMILY
SOMEWHERE OUT IN THE WESTERN FLATS...
RETURNING HOME MAY NOT HAVE BEEN THE WISEST OF CHOICES, SENORITA!
ALL THAT REMAIN ARE THE DEVASTATED RUINS OF OUR ONCE PROUD CITY FROM THE DESPICABLE ROBOTNIK!
BE THAT AS IT MAY, REYNARD--
--WHILE WE MAY NOT FIND OUR LOVED ONES HERE--
--THERE'S ALWAYS THE POSSIBILITY OF FINDING OUT WHERE THEY'VE GONE!

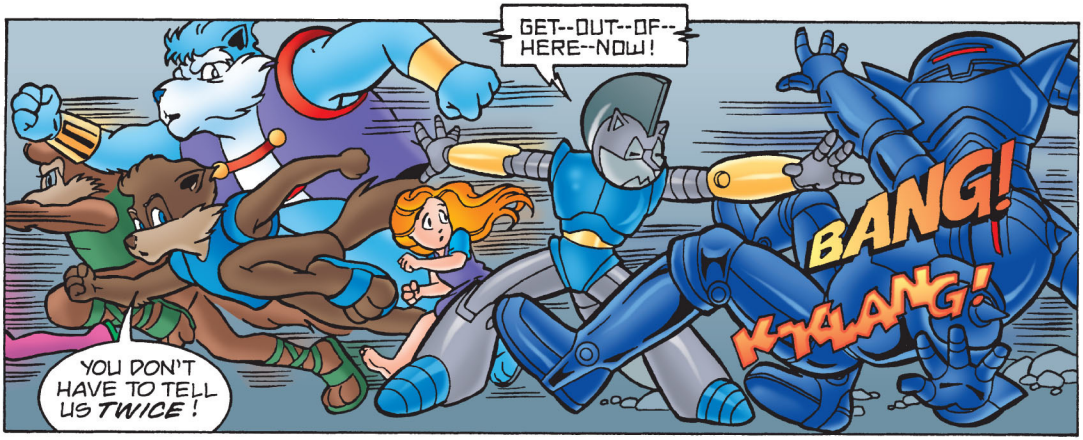

AS MUCH AS I WANT TO BELIEVE OTHERWISE--
--I CAN'T SEE A THING THAT GIVES ME HOPE!
DIABLO MAY HAVE A POINT, LUPE--
-- THERE MAY NOT BE ANYTHING LEFT FOR US TO FIND!
DON'T EVEN THINK IT, CANUS!
WE CAN PRESS ON WITH OUR SEARCH, SENORITA--
--BUT I, TOO, AM BEGINNING TO FEEL IT WILL ALL BE IN VAIN!
I CAN'T BLAME ANY OF YOU FOR FEELING THE WAY YOU DO!
BUT I KNOW LOBO--
--AND I KNOW HE WOULD NEVER GO WITHOUT LEAVING BEHIND SOME SIGN FOR ME!
FWOOOOSH!
B-TUUM!
GAS!
EVERYBODY!! HOLD--YOUR--NOSE...

SPLAAASH!!!
WHERE THE HECK ARE WE?
SOME PLACE WHERE THE PLUMBING IS IN DESPERATE NEED OF REPAIR WOULD BE MY FIRST GUESS!
WHILE I CAN APPRECIATE THE NEED FOR LEVITY AT A TIME LIKE THIS, I THINK WE'RE HAVING COMPANY!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE METAL CLANGING ALONG THE CONCRETE FLOOR!
A SWATBOT, PERHAPS?

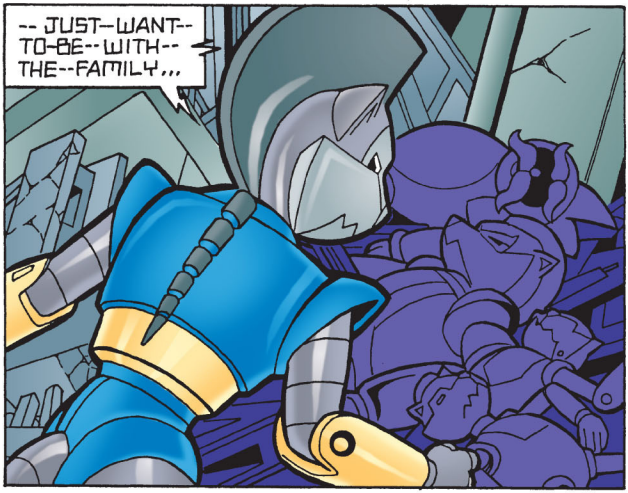

THEY'RE NOT SWAT-BOTS!!
IT'S LOBO!! AND MARCOS AND MARIA --MY CHILDREN!!!
WHAT HAPPENED? WHO DID THIS TO YOU?!!
I THOUGHT IT OBVIOUS AS TO WHAT HAPPENED!
AS FOR WHO--


--IT WAS ME!
UNCLE CHUCK!!
YOU DID THIS?!! YOU WERE WITH PRINCESS SALLY AND SONIC THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU!
OH, COME NOW, WOMAN! YOU THINK A TRUSTED LIEUTENANT OF THE GREAT DOCTOR ROBOTNIK WOULD ASSOCIATE WITH RABBLE ROUSERS SUCH AS THEY?!
YOU'RE GOING TO RESTORE MY HUSBAND AND CHILDREN OR ELSE, YOU--!!!!
EASY, SENORITA! DON'T GIVE HIM THE SATISFACTION!
IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T BEEN PAYING ATTENTION, YOU'RE NOT THE ONE IN CONTROL HERE--
--I AM!
AND IF YOU AND YOUR COMPANIONS DON'T DO AS YOU'RE TOLD, I'LL HAVE THESE TWO BEHIND ME TURNED INTO SO MUCH SCRAP METAL!
DO WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER?
YES, WE DO!
WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?
THAT'S MUCH BETTER!
IF YOU'LL JUST STEP RIGHT THIS WAY--

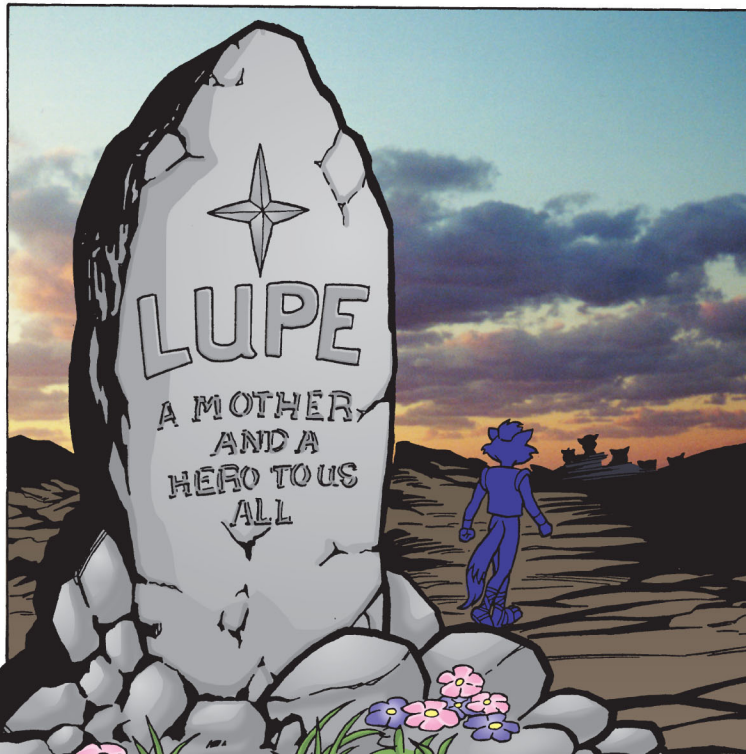
--AND INTO THAT ROBOTICIZER, WE CAN GET THIS OVER WITH AS PAINLESSLY AS POSSIBLE!
I HOPE YOU CAN LIVE WITH YOURSELF, YOU MONSTER!
I'M NOT A MONSTER, MY FAIR LUPE!
I'M ONLY A SMALL PART OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER!
ON MY COMMAND, LOBO--
--ACTIVATE THE ROBOTICIZER!
K-KLICK!
BRFEEEP BZZEZBZZ
RRRRRMMMMMMMM
NO!
OH, LUPE!
SEE? THAT WASN'T TOO BAD, WAS IT?
YOU MAY STEP OFF THE PLATFORM NOW!
WHAAAT?!!
SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG!!!
KRAAAKSH!


GET--OUT--OF--HERE--NOW!
BANG!
KYALANG!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL US TWICE!

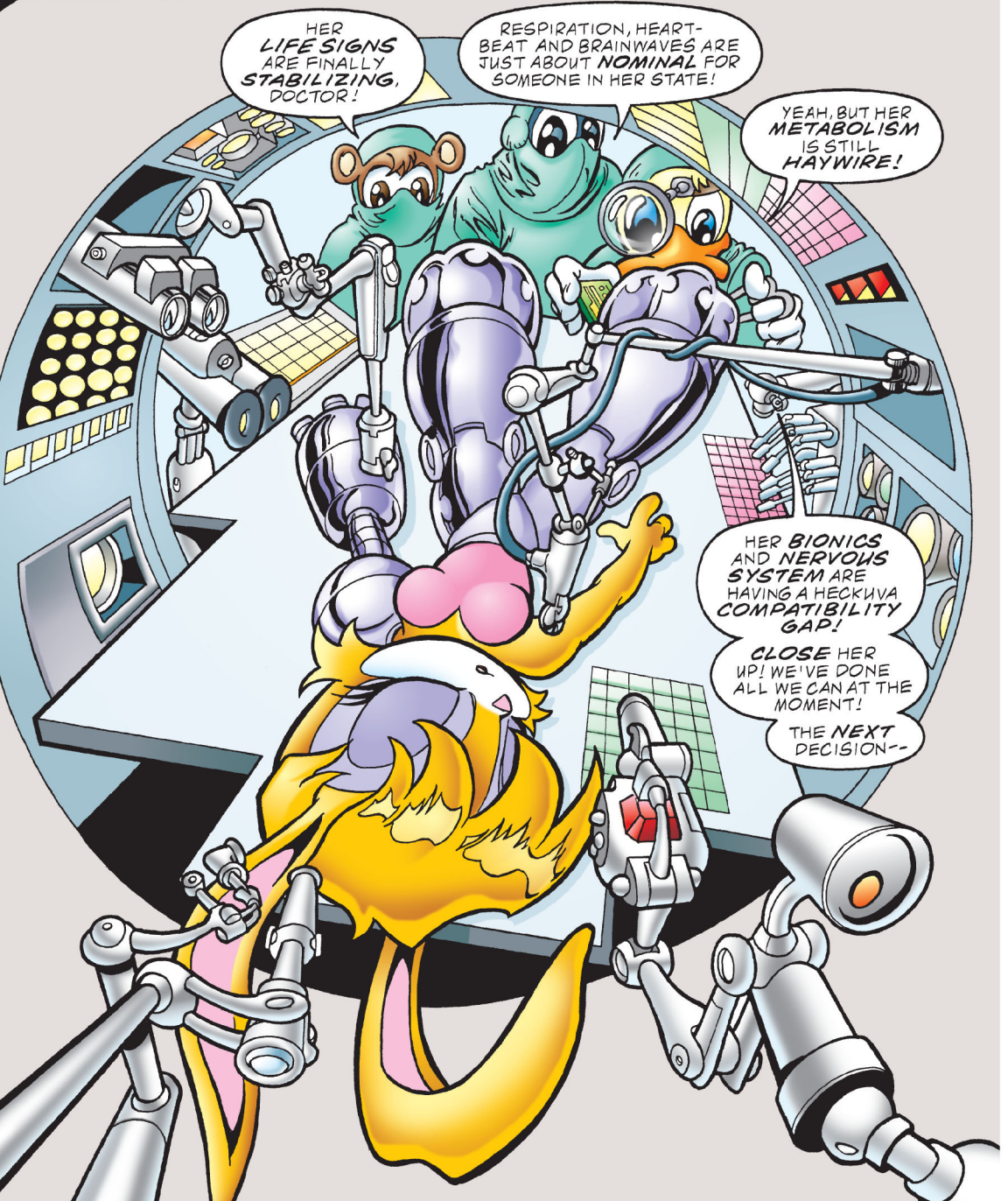
WHAT ABOUT YOU, SENORITA?
WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE YOU HERE!
GETTING--HARD--TO--THINK--

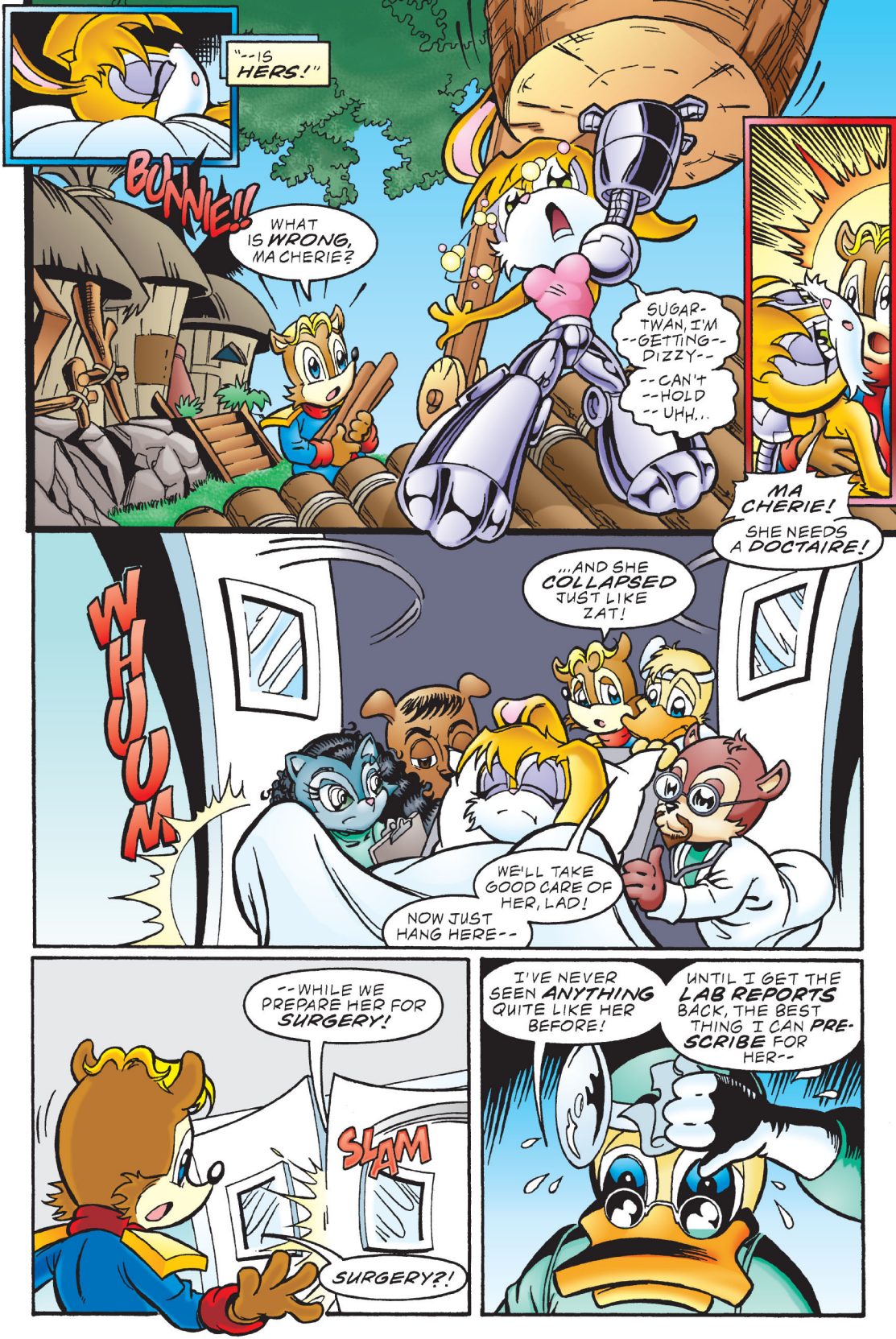

-- JUST--WANT--TO-BE--WITH--THE--FAMILY...

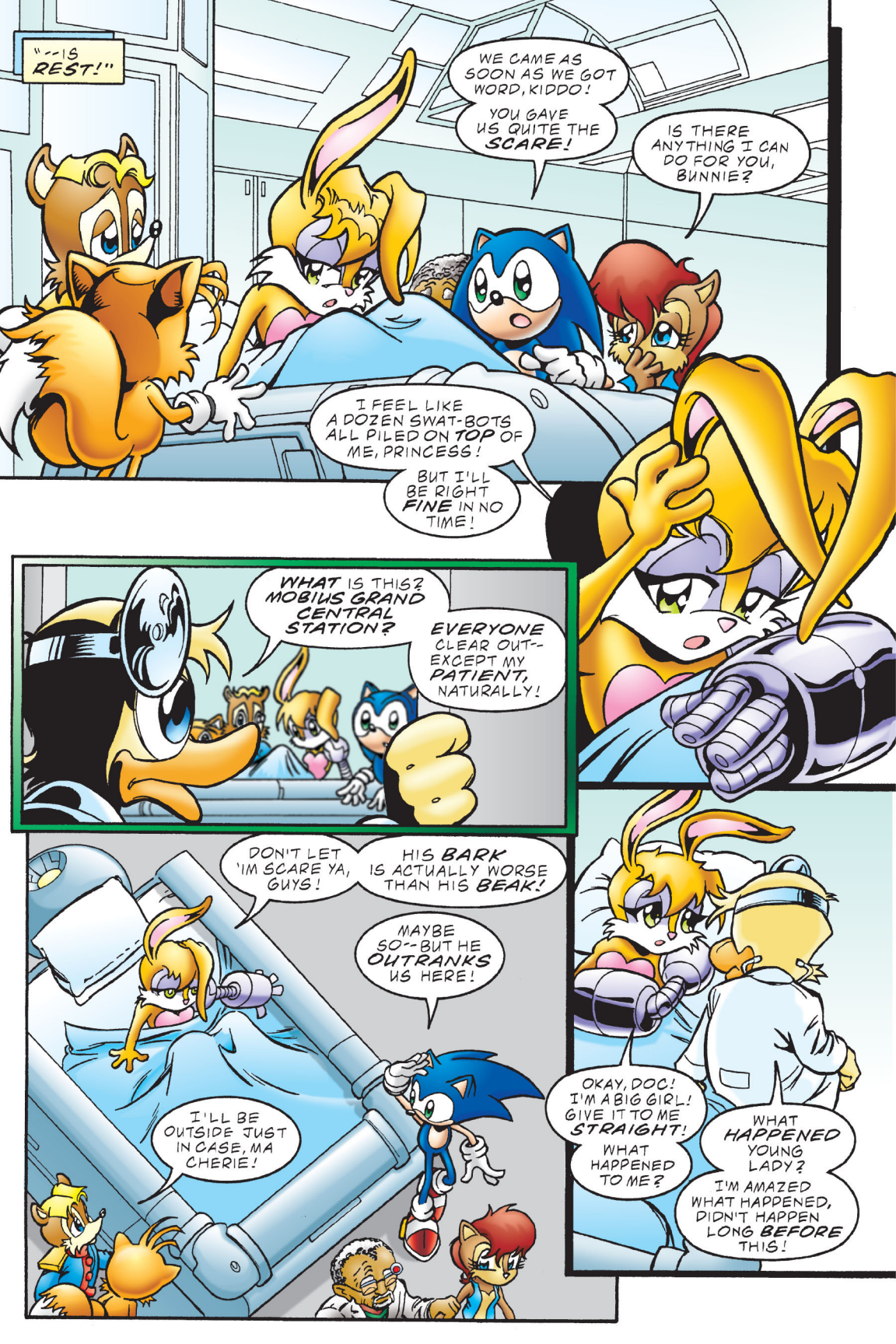
AS YOU WISH!
HASTA LUEGO, LA BONITA!

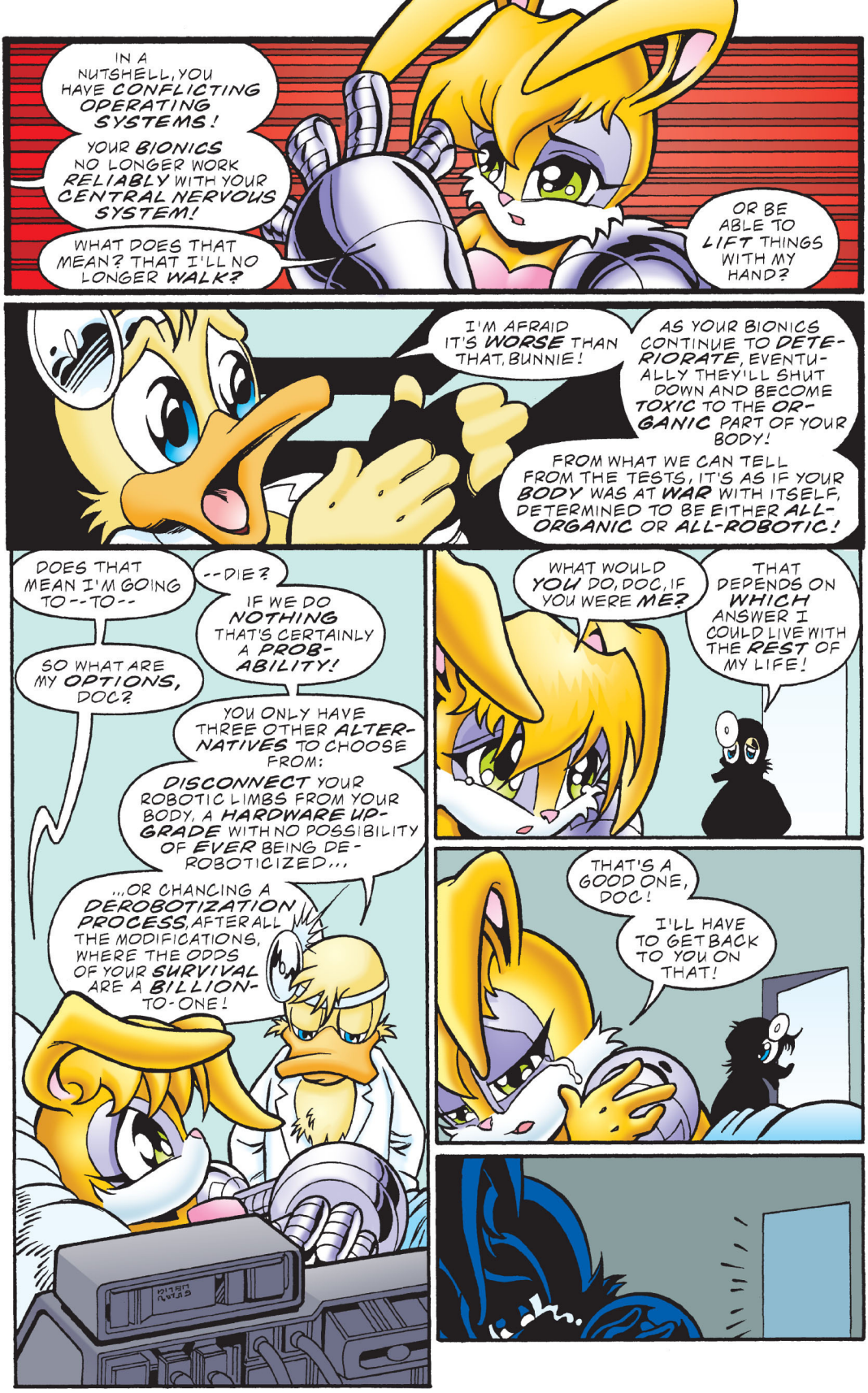

LUPE
A MOTHER, AND A HERO TO US ALL

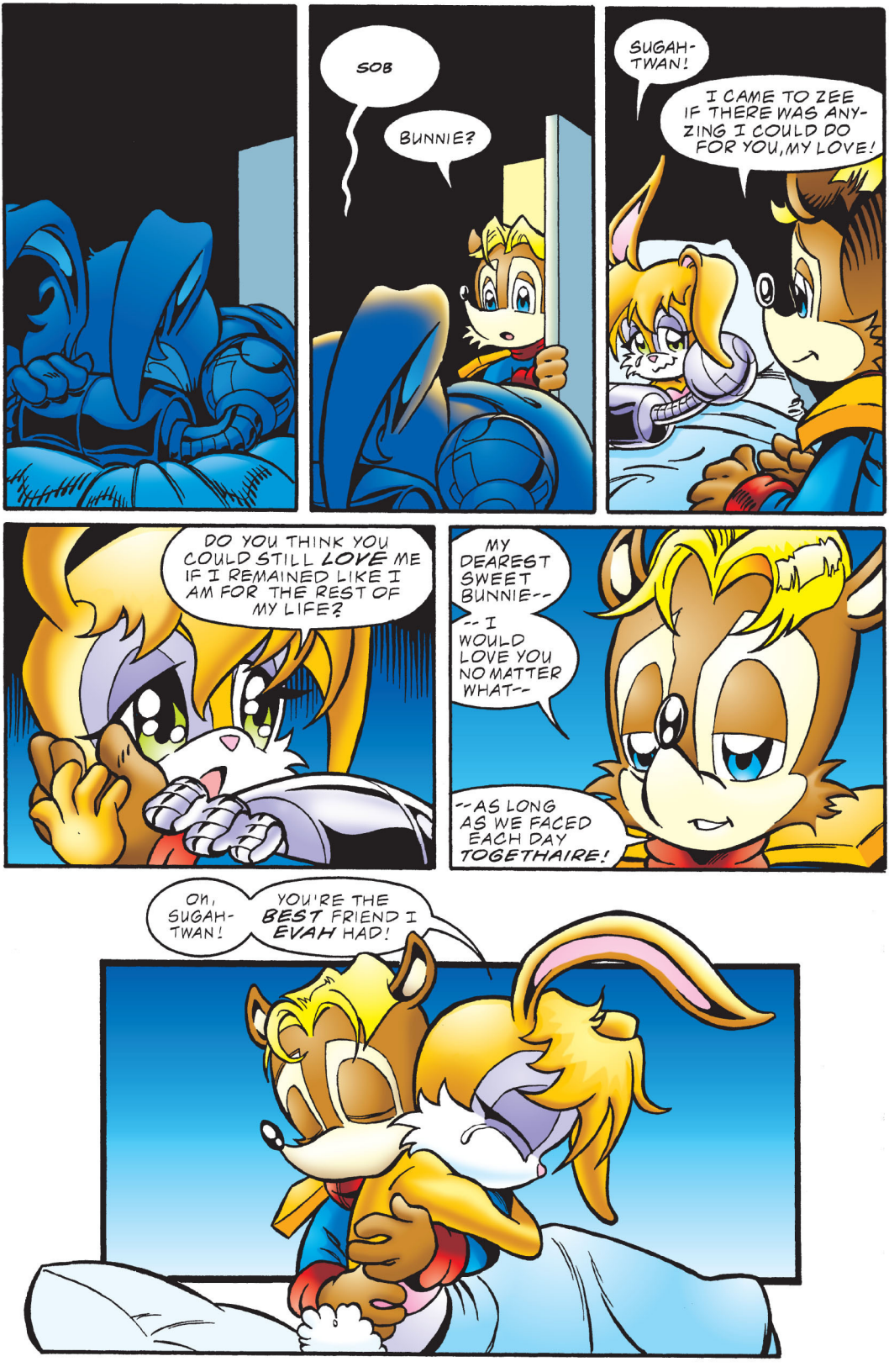
BUNNIE RABBOT -IN- UPGRADE™

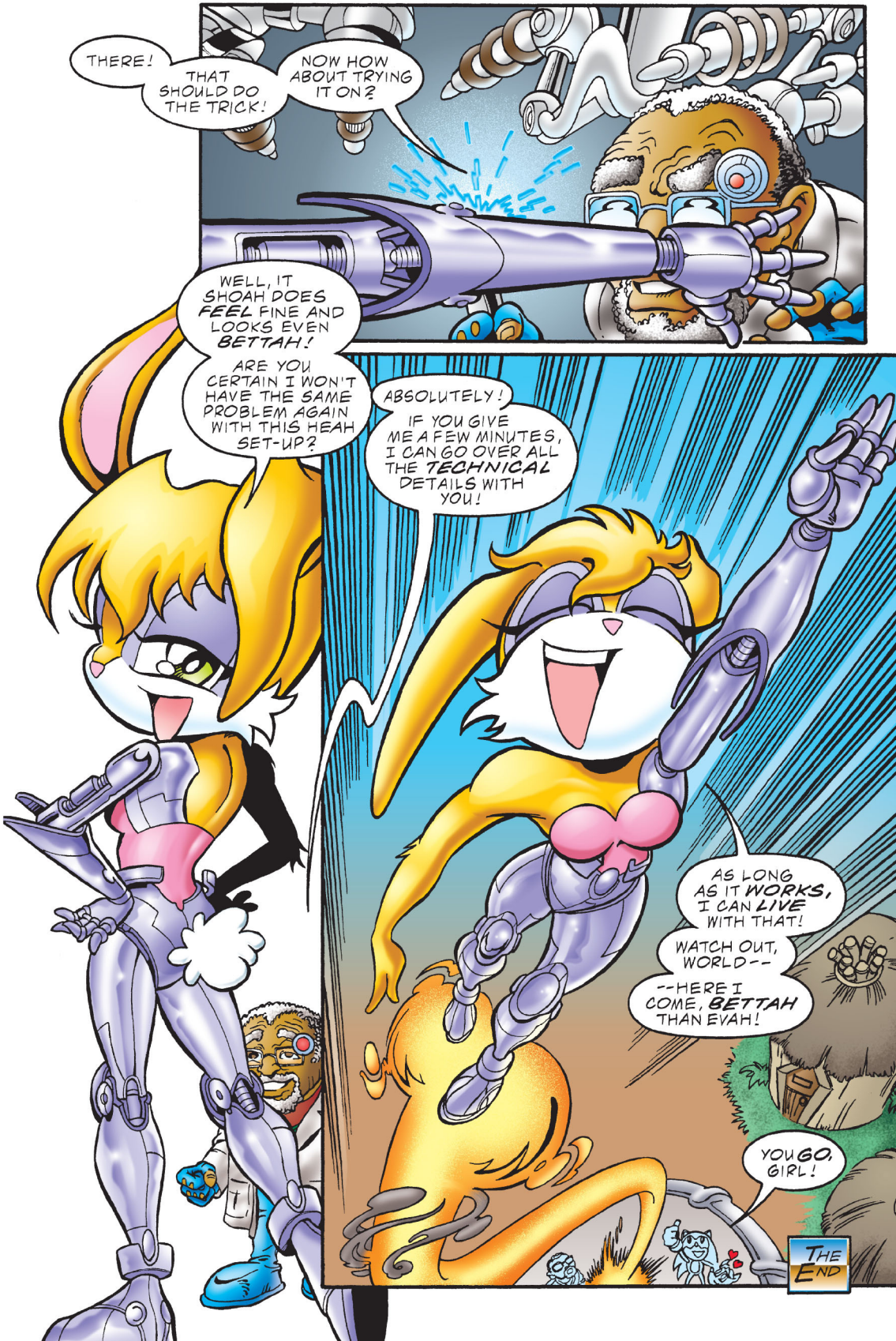

HER LIFE SIGNS ARE FINALLY STABILIZING, DOCTOR!
RESPIRATION, HEARTBEAT AND BRAINWAVES ARE JUST ABOUT NOMINAL FOR SOMEONE IN HER STATE!
YEAH, BUT HER METABOLISM IS STILL HAYWIRE!
HER BIONICS AND NERVOUS SYSTEM ARE HAVING A HECKUVA COMPATIBILITY GAP!
CLOSE HER UP! WE'VE DONE ALL WE CAN AT THE MOMENT!
THE NEXT DECISION--

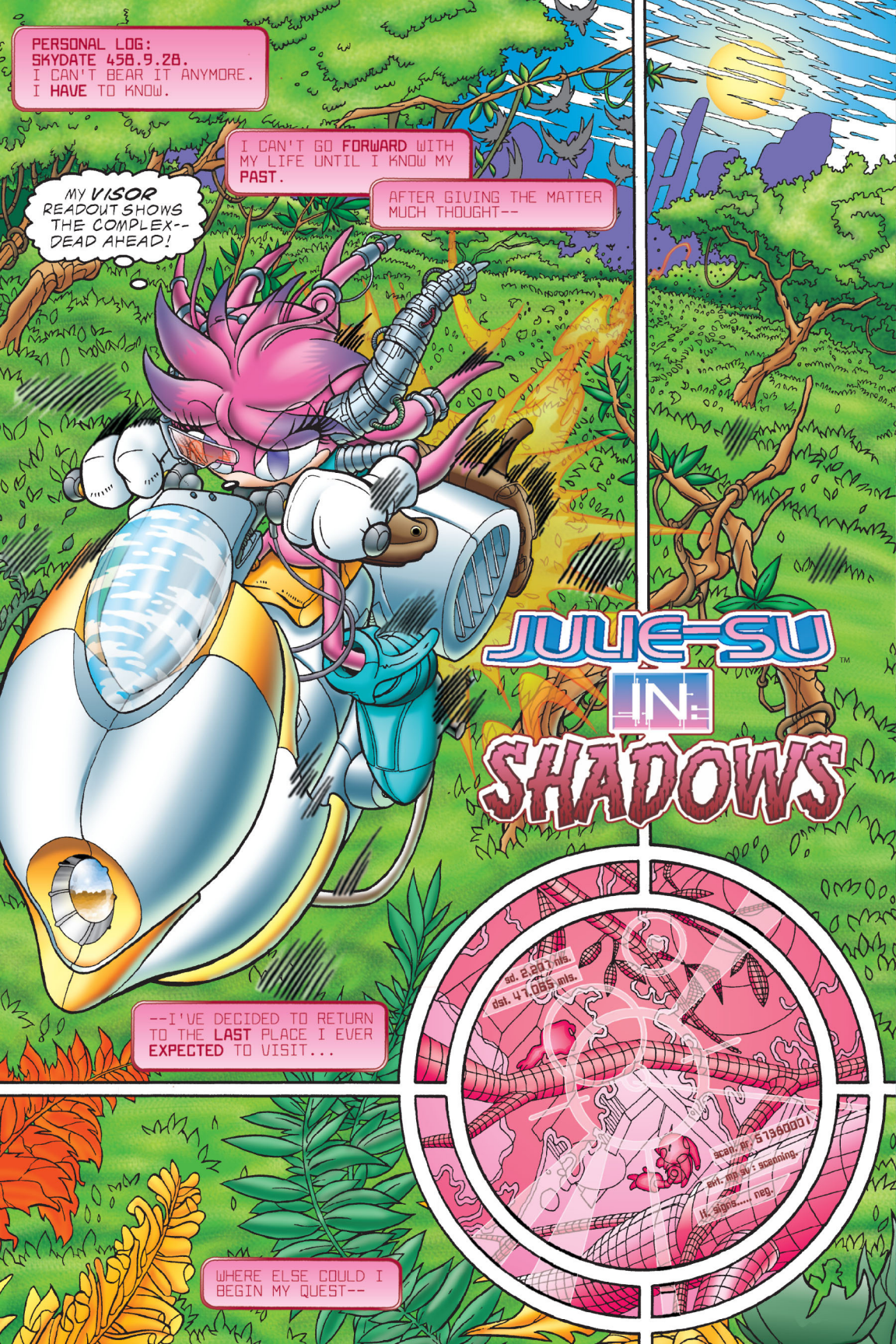

"--IS HERS!"
BUNNIE!!
WHAT IS WRONG, MA CHERIE?
SUGAR-TWAN, I'M --GETTING-- DIZZY--
--CAN'T --HOLD -- UHH...
MA CHERIE!
SHE NEEDS A DOCTAIRE!
WHUUM
...AND SHE COLLAPSED JUST LIKE ZAT!
WE'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER, LAD!
NOW JUST HANG HERE--
--WHILE WE PREPARE HER FOR SURGERY!
SLAM
SURGERY?!
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING QUITE LIKE HER BEFORE!
UNTIL I GET THE LAB REPORTS BACK, THE BEST THING I CAN PRE-SCRIBE FOR HER--

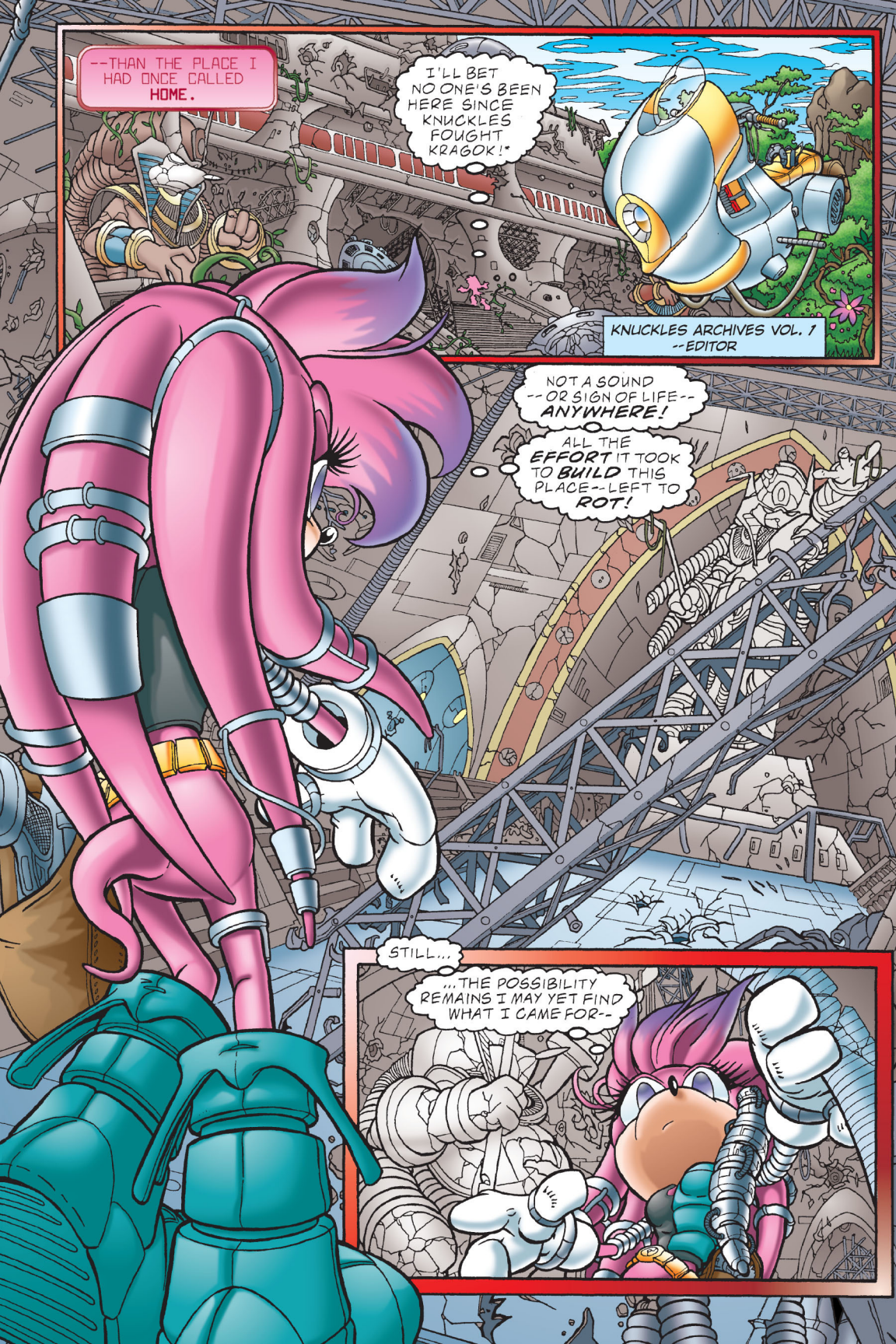

"--IS REST!"
WE CAME AS SOON AS WE GOT WORD, KIDDO!
YOU GAVE US QUITE THE SCARE!
IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU, BUNNIE?
I FEEL LIKE A DOZEN SWAT-BOTS ALL PILED ON TOP OF ME, PRINCESS!
BUT I'LL BE RIGHT FINE IN NO TIME!
WHAT IS THIS? MOBIUS GRAND CENTRAL STATION?
EVERYONE CLEAR OUT-- EXCEPT MY PATIENT, NATURALLY!
DON'T LET 'IM SCARE YA, GUYS!
HIS BARK IS ACTUALLY WORSE THAN HIS BEAK!
MAYBE SO--BUT HE OUTRANKS US HERE!
I'LL BE OUTSIDE JUST IN CASE, MA CHERIE!
OKAY, DOC! I'M A BIG GIRL! GIVE IT TO ME STRAIGHT!
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?
WHAT HAPPENED YOUNG LADY?
I'M AMAZED WHAT HAPPENED, DIDN'T HAPPEN LONG BEFORE THIS!

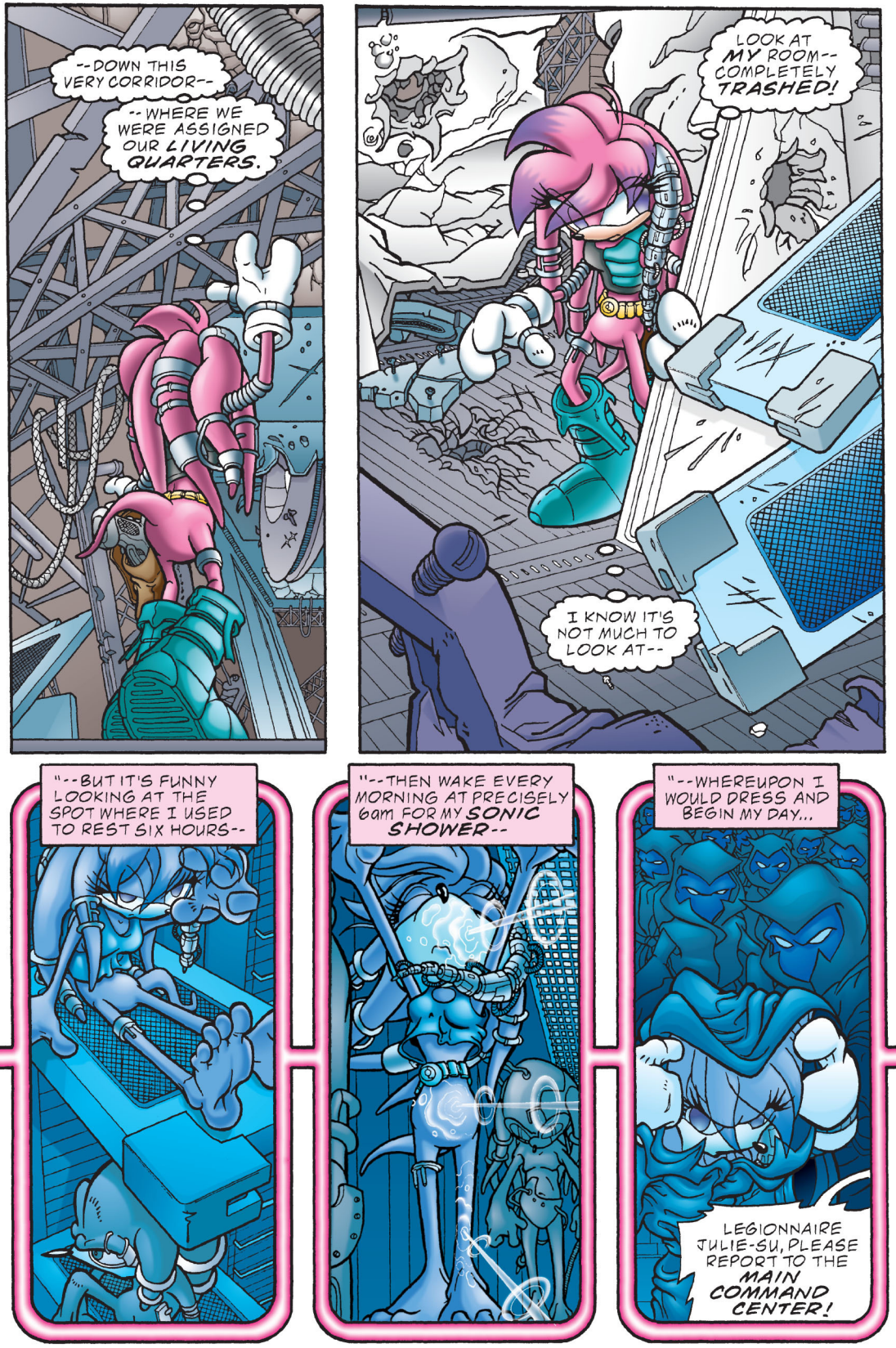

IN A NUTSHELL, YOU HAVE CONFLICTING OPERATING SYSTEMS!
YOUR BIONICS NO LONGER WORK RELIABLY WITH YOUR CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM!
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? THAT I'LL NO LONGER WALK?
OR BE ABLE TO LIFT THINGS WITH MY HAND?
I'M AFRAID IT'S WORSE THAN THAT, BUNNIE!
AS YOUR BIONICS CONTINUE TO DETERIORATE, EVENTUALLY THEY'LL SHUT DOWN AND BECOME TOXIC TO THE ORGANIC PART OF YOUR BODY!
FROM WHAT WE CAN TELL FROM THE TESTS, IT'S AS IF YOUR BODY WAS AT WAR WITH ITSELF, DETERMINED TO BE EITHER ALL-ORGANIC OR ALL-ROBOTIC!
DOES THAT MEAN I'M GOING TO--TO--
--DIE?
IF WE DO NOTHING THAT'S CERTAINLY A PROBABILITY!
SO WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS, DOC?
YOU ONLY HAVE THREE OTHER ALTERNATIVES TO CHOOSE FROM:
DISCONNECT YOUR ROBOTIC LIMBS FROM YOUR BODY, A HARDWARE UPGRADE WITH NO POSSIBILITY OF EVER BEING DE-ROBOTICIZED...
...OR CHANCING A DEROBOTIZATION PROCESS, AFTER ALL THE MODIFICATIONS, WHERE THE ODDS OF YOUR SURVIVAL ARE A BILLION-TO-ONE!
WHAT WOULD YOU DO, DOC, IF YOU WERE ME?
THAT DEPENDS ON WHICH ANSWER I COULD LIVE WITH THE REST OF MY LIFE!
THAT'S A GOOD ONE, DOC!
I'LL HAVE TO GET BACK TO YOU ON THAT!

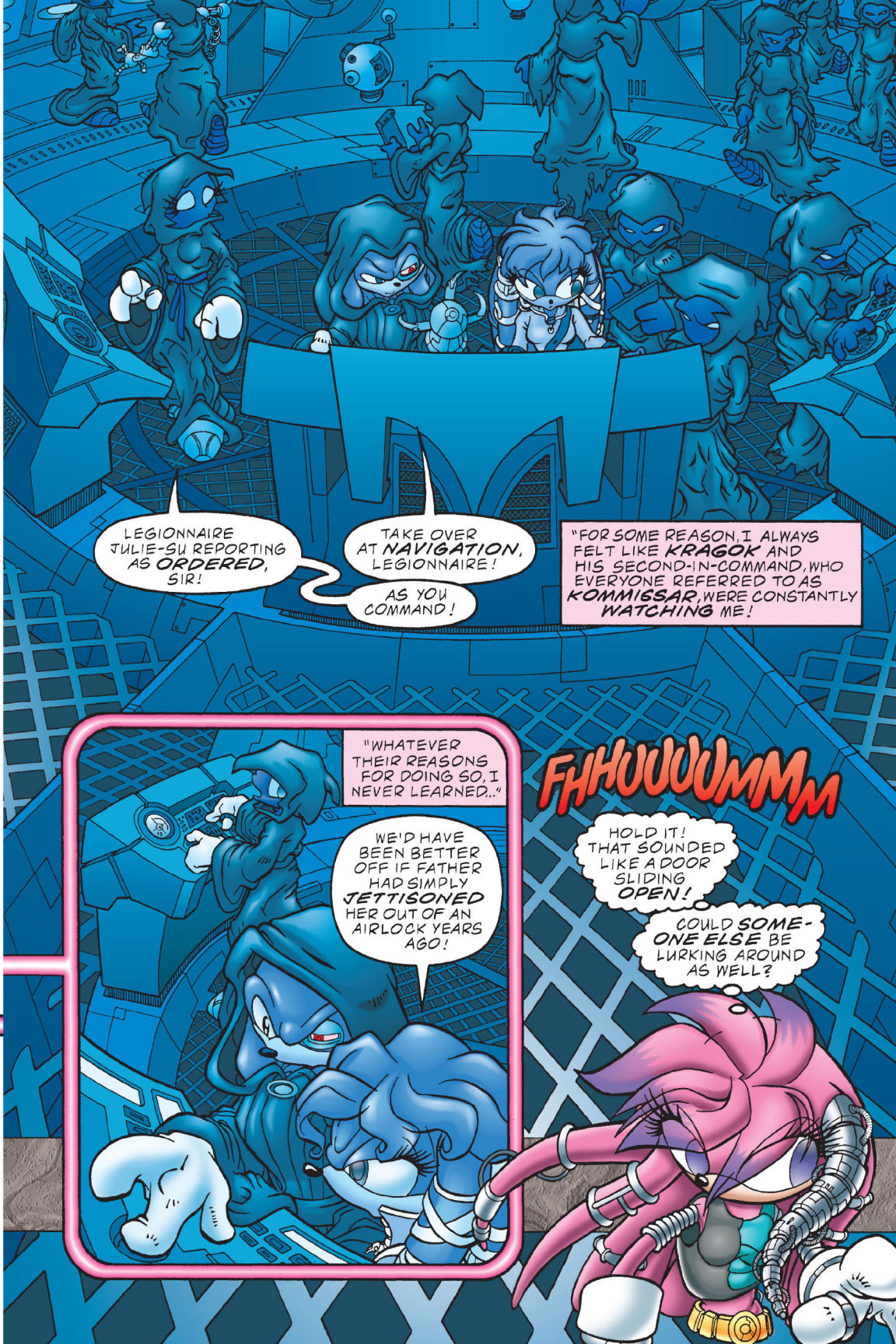

SOB
BUNNIE?
SUGAH-TWAN!
I CAME TO ZEE IF THERE WAS ANY-ZING I COULD DO FOR YOU, MY LOVE!
DO YOU THINK YOU COULD STILL LOVE ME IF I REMAINED LIKE I AM FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE?
MY DEAREST SWEET BUNNIE--
--I WOULD LOVE YOU NO MATTER WHAT--
--AS LONG AS WE FACED EACH DAY TOGETHAIRE!
Oh, SUGAH-TWAN!
YOU'RE THE BEST FRIEND I EVAH HAD!


THERE!
THAT SHOULD DO THE TRICK!
NOW HOW ABOUT TRYING IT ON?
WELL, IT SHOAH DOES FEEL FINE AND LOOKS EVEN BETTAH!
ARE YOU CERTAIN I WON'T HAVE THE SAME PROBLEM AGAIN WITH THIS HEAH SET-UP?
ABSOLUTELY! IF YOU GIVE ME A FEW MINUTES, I CAN GO OVER ALL THE TECHNICAL DETAILS WITH YOU!
AS LONG AS IT WORKS, I CAN LIVE WITH THAT!
WATCH OUT, WORLD--
--HERE I COME, BETTAH THAN EVAH!
YOU GO, GIRL!
THE END

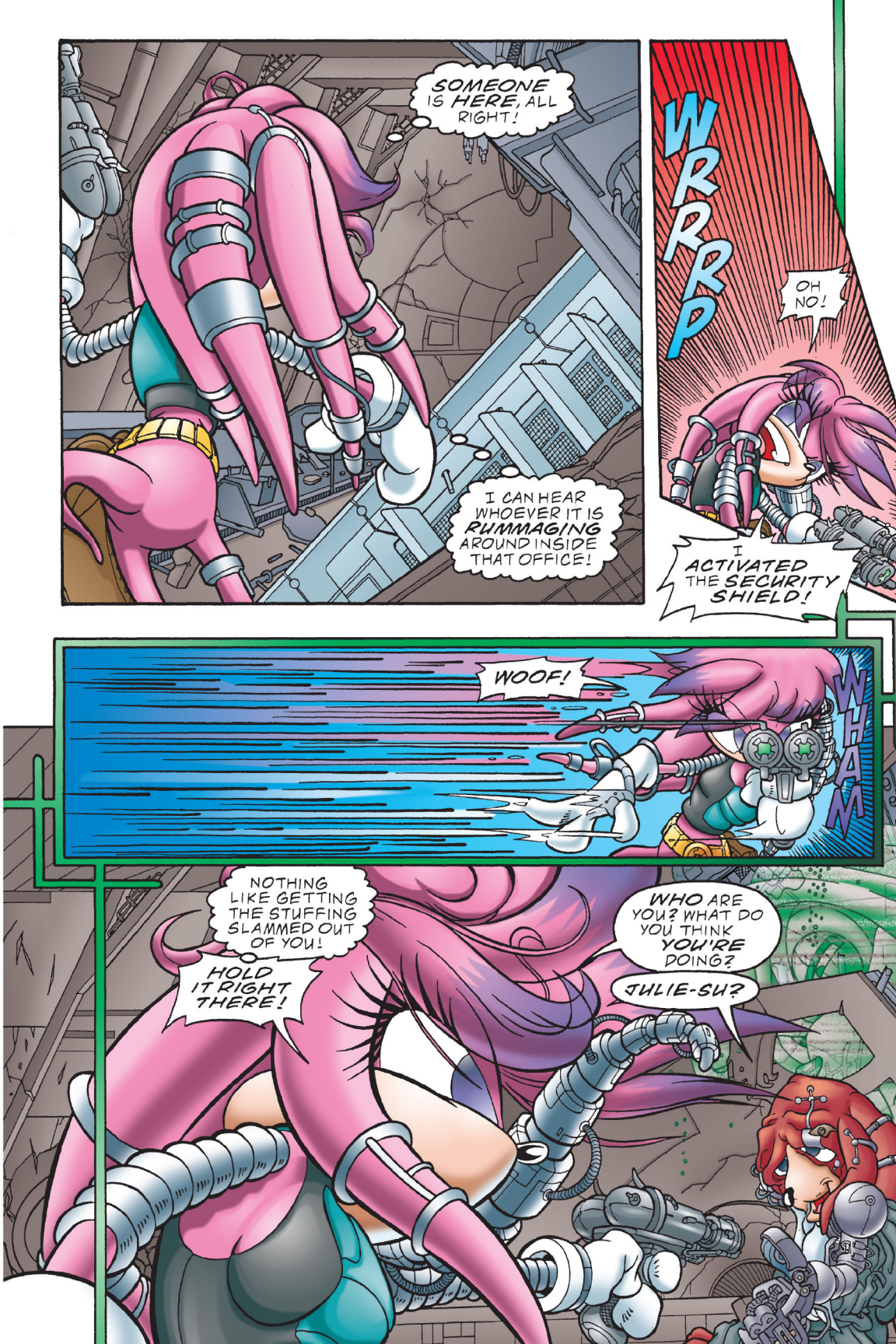

PERSONAL LOG:
SKYDATE 458.9.28.
I CAN'T BEAR IT ANYMORE.
I HAVE TO KNOW.
I CAN'T GO FORWARD WITH MY LIFE UNTIL I KNOW MY PAST.
AFTER GIVING THE MATTER MUCH THOUGHT--
MY VISOR READOUT SHOWS THE COMPLEX-- DEAD AHEAD!
JULIE-SU
IN:
SHADOWS
--I'VE DECIDED TO RETURN TO THE LAST PLACE I EVER EXPECTED TO VISIT...
WHERE ELSE COULD I BEGIN MY QUEST--

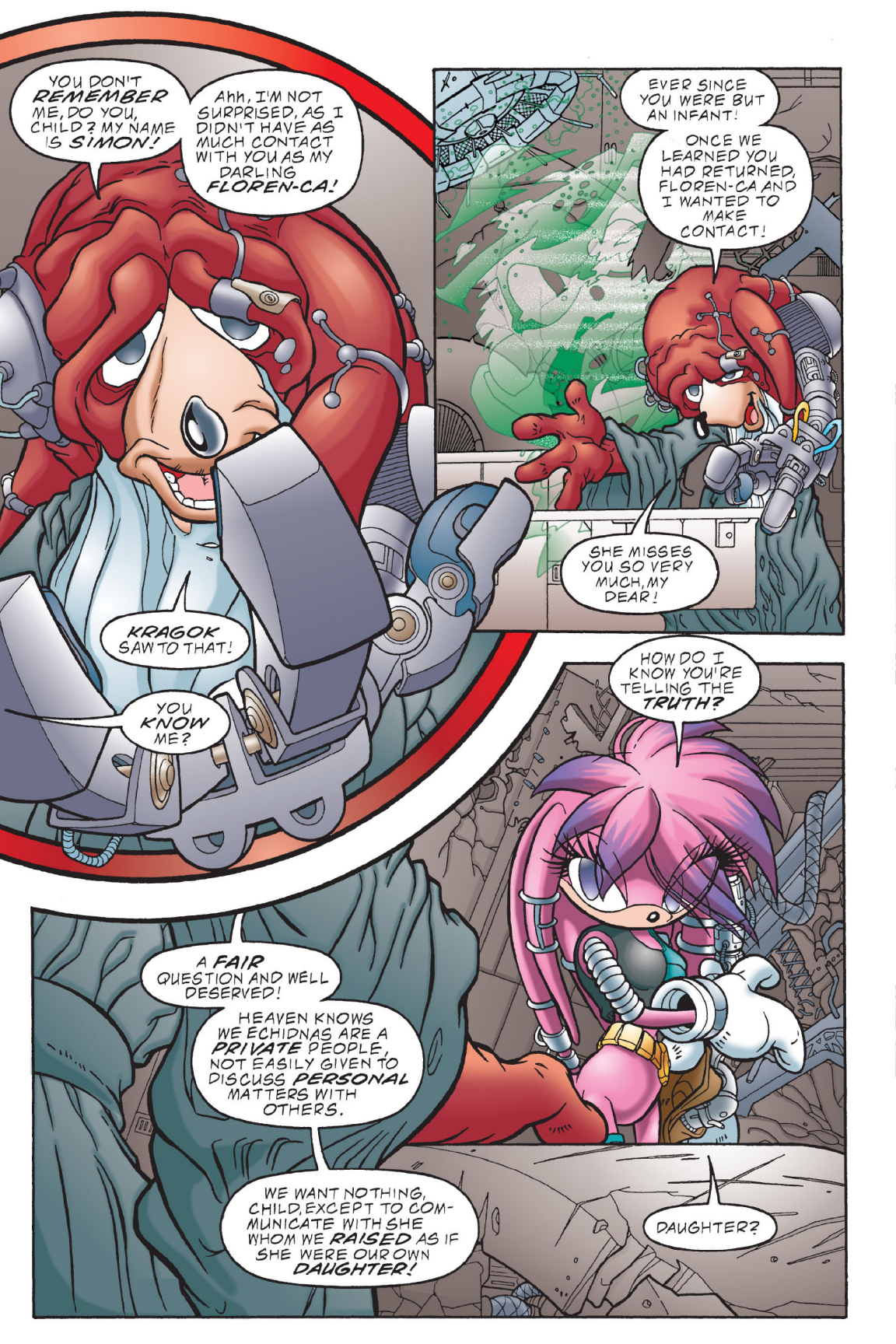

--THAN THE PLACE I HAD ONCE CALLED HOME.
I'LL BET NO ONE'S BEEN HERE SINCE KNUCKLES FOUGHT KRAGOK!*
KNUCKLES ARCHIVES VOL. 1 --EDITOR
NOT A SOUND --OR SIGN OF LIFE-- ANYWHERE!
ALL THE EFFORT IT TOOK TO BUILD THIS PLACE--LEFT TO ROT!
STILL...
...THE POSSIBILITY REMAINS I MAY YET FIND WHAT I CAME FOR--

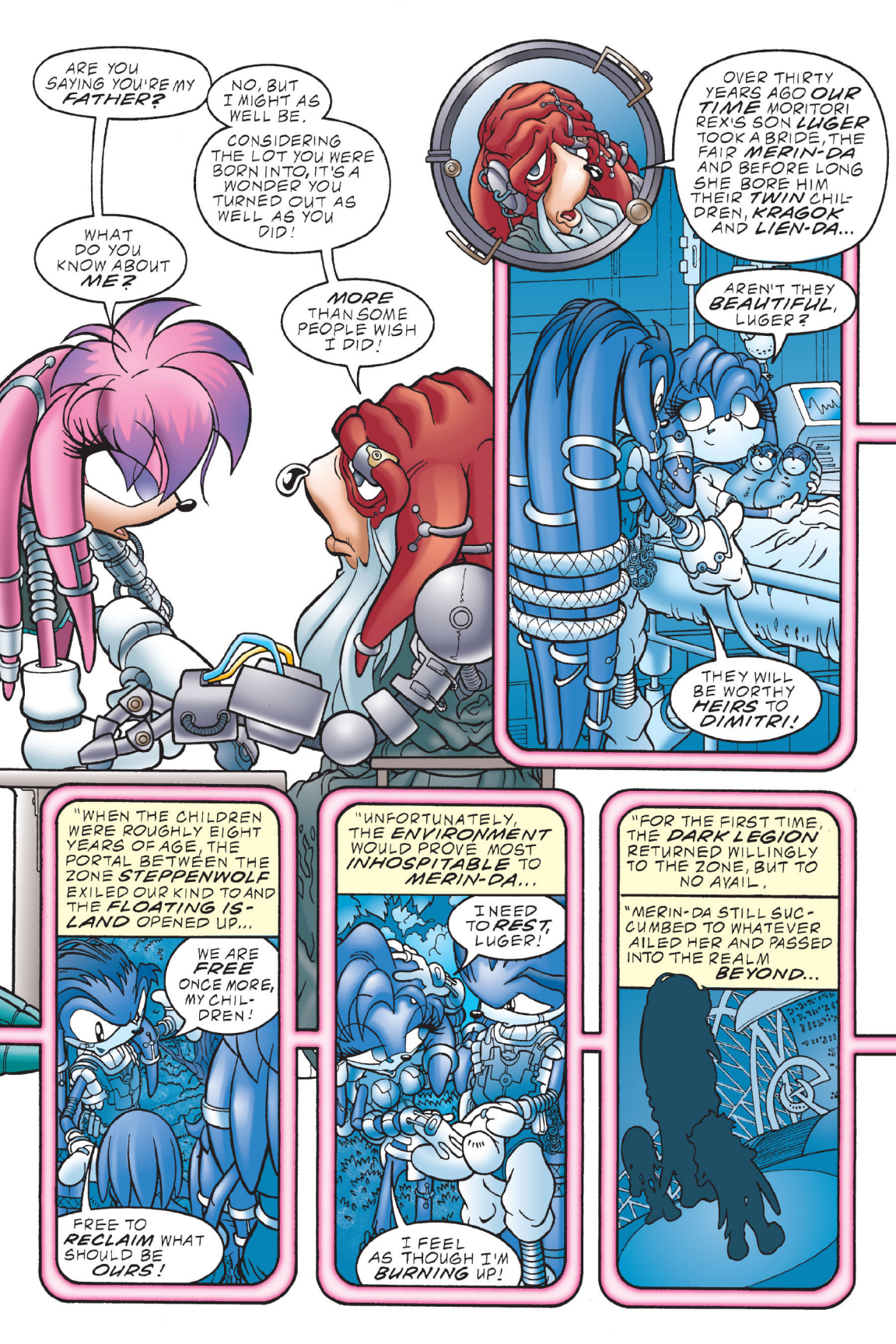

--DOWN THIS VERY CORRIDOR--
--WHERE WE WERE ASSIGNED OUR LIVING QUARTERS.
LOOK AT MY ROOM-- COMPLETELY TRASHED!
I KNOW IT'S NOT MUCH TO LOOK AT--
"--BUT IT'S FUNNY LOOKING AT THE SPOT WHERE I USED TO REST SIX HOURS--
"--THEN WAKE EVERY MORNING AT PRECISELY 6am FOR MY SONIC SHOWER--
"--WHEREUPON I WOULD DRESS AND BEGIN MY DAY...
LEGIONNAIRE JULIE-SU, PLEASE REPORT TO THE MAIN COMMAND CENTER!

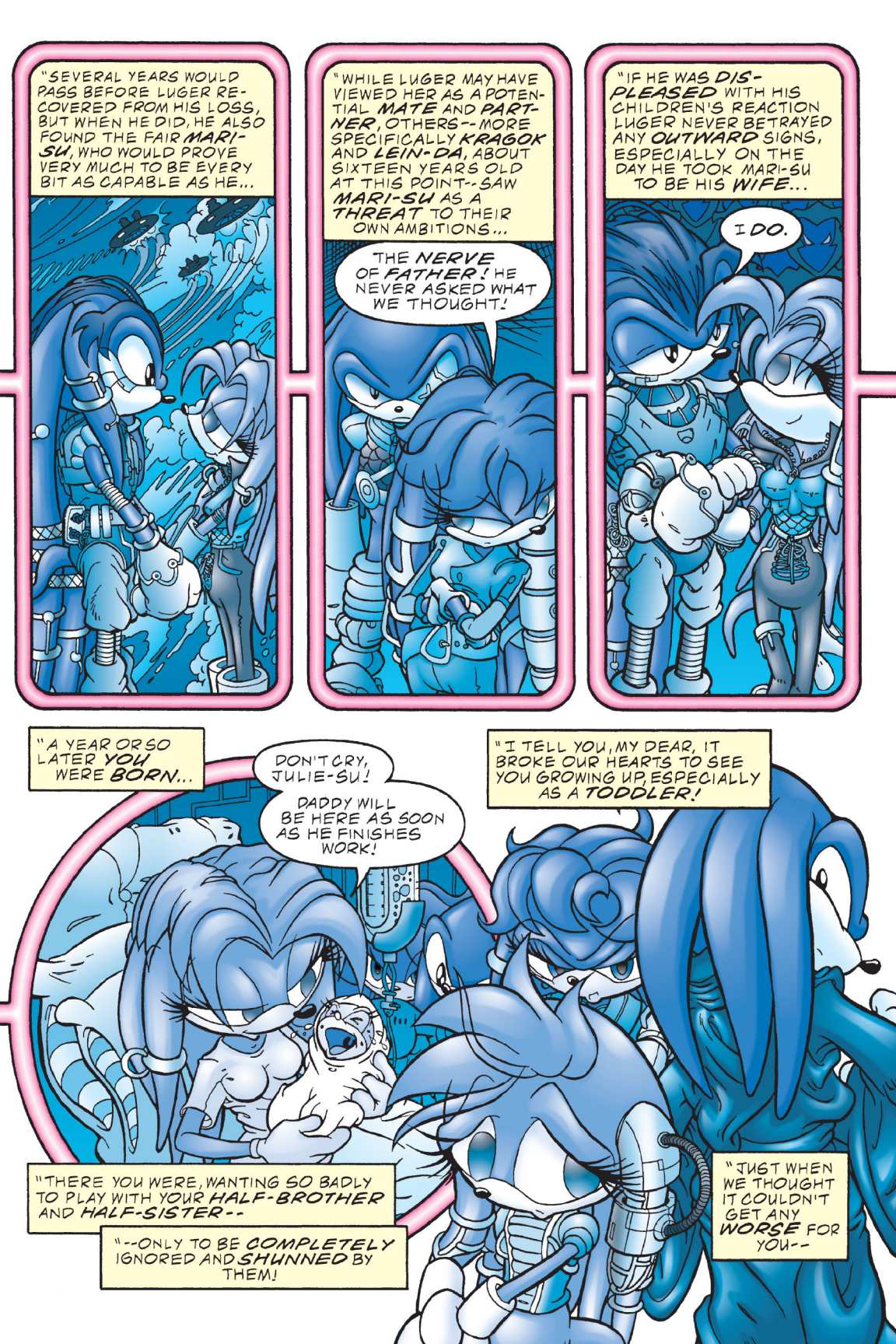

LEGIONNAIRE JULIE-SU REPORTING AS ORDERED, SIR!
TAKE OVER AT NAVIGATION, LEGIONNAIRE!
AS YOU COMMAND!
"FOR SOME REASON, I ALWAYS FELT LIKE KRAGOK AND HIS SECOND-IN-COMMAND, WHO EVERYONE REFERRED TO AS KOMMISSAR, WERE CONSTANTLY WATCHING ME!
"WHATEVER THEIR REASONS FOR DOING SO, I NEVER LEARNED..."
WE'D HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF IF FATHER HAD SIMPLY JETTISONED HER OUT OF AN AIRLOCK YEARS AGO!
FHHUUUUMMM
HOLD IT! THAT SOUNDED LIKE A DOOR SLIDING OPEN!
COULD SOMEONE ELSE BE LURKING AROUND AS WELL?

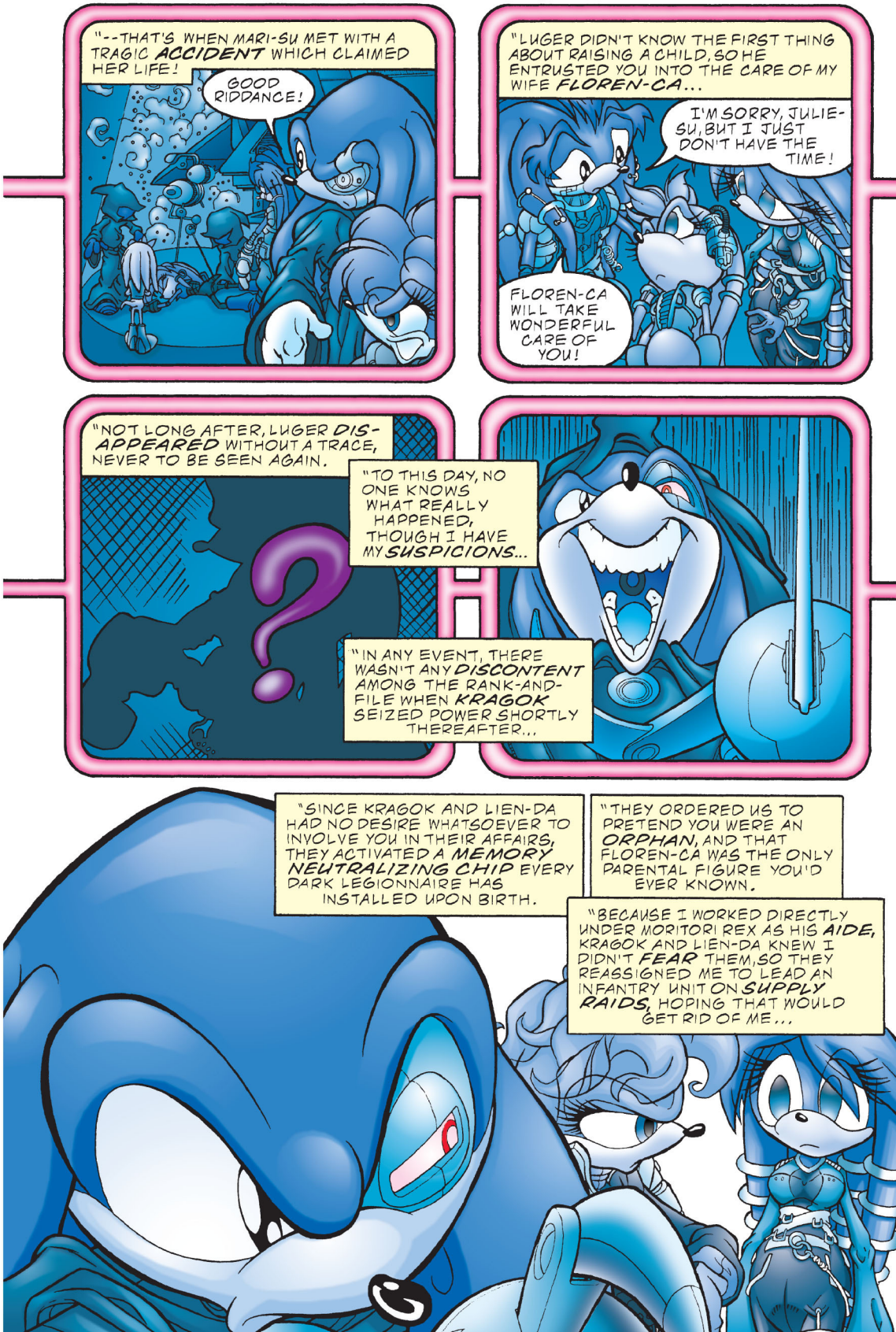
IT SOUNDED LIKE IT CAME FROM UP THERE--PAST THE ARMORY!
"I WAS OUTFITTED WITH MY TASER IN THERE JUST BEFORE KNUCKLES HIT THE SCENE!"
CONSIDERING I SHOULD BE THE ONLY ONE HERE, A PRECAUTION OR TWO SHOULDN'T HURT!
WELL, I'LL BE--
FOOTSTEPS COMING FROM DOWN THIS CORRIDOR!
NOT TO MENTION A LIGHT--
--COMING FROM IN THERE!

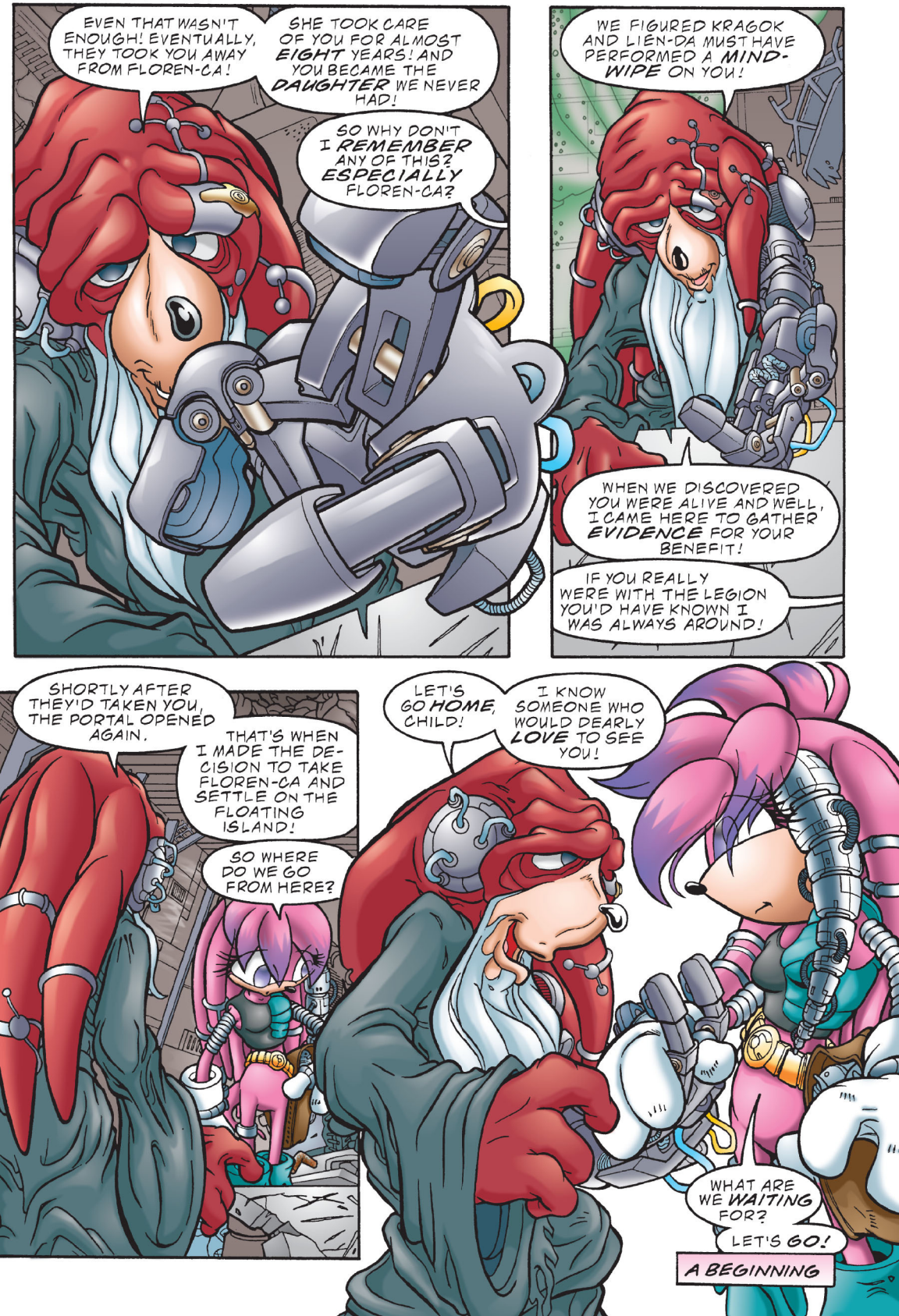

SOMEONE IS HERE, ALL RIGHT!
I CAN HEAR WHOEVER IT IS RUMMAGING AROUND INSIDE THAT OFFICE!
WRRP
OH NO!
I ACTIVATED THE SECURITY SHIELD!
WOOF!
WHAM
NOTHING LIKE GETTING THE STUFFING SLAMMED OUT OF YOU!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
JULIE-SU?


YOU DON'T REMEMBER ME, DO YOU, CHILD? MY NAME IS SIMON!
Ahh, I'M NOT SURPRISED, AS I DIDN'T HAVE AS MUCH CONTACT WITH YOU AS MY DARLING FLOREN-CA!
KRAGOK SAW TO THAT!
YOU KNOW ME?
EVER SINCE YOU WERE BUT AN INFANT!
ONCE WE LEARNED YOU HAD RETURNED, FLOREN-CA AND I WANTED TO MAKE CONTACT!
SHE MISSES YOU SO VERY MUCH, MY DEAR!
HOW DO I KNOW YOU'RE TELLING THE TRUTH?
A FAIR QUESTION AND WELL DESERVED!
HEAVEN KNOWS WE ECHIDNAS ARE A PRIVATE PEOPLE, NOT EASILY GIVEN TO DISCUSS PERSONAL MATTERS WITH OTHERS.
WE WANT NOTHING, CHILD, EXCEPT TO COMMUNICATE WITH SHE WHOM WE RAISED AS IF SHE WERE OUR OWN DAUGHTER!
DAUGHTER?


ARE YOU SAYING YOU'RE MY FATHER?
NO, BUT I MIGHT AS WELL BE.
CONSIDERING THE LOT YOU WERE BORN INTO, IT'S A WONDER YOU TURNED OUT AS WELL AS YOU DID!
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?
MORE THAN SOME PEOPLE WISH I DID!
OVER THIRTY YEARS AGO OUR TIME MORITORI REX'S SON LUGER TOOK A BRIDE, THE FAIR MERIN-DA AND BEFORE LONG SHE BORE HIM THEIR TWIN CHILDREN, KRAGOK AND LIEN-DA...
AREN'T THEY BEAUTIFUL, LUGER?
THEY WILL BE WORTHY HEIRS TO DIMITRI!
"WHEN THE CHILDREN WERE ROUGHLY EIGHT YEARS OF AGE, THE PORTAL BETWEEN THE ZONE STEPPENWOLF EXILED OUR KIND TO AND THE FLOATING ISLAND OPENED UP...
WE ARE FREE ONCE MORE, MY CHILDREN!
FREE TO RECLAIM WHAT SHOULD BE OURS!
"UNFORTUNATELY, THE ENVIRONMENT WOULD PROVE MOST INHOSPITABLE TO MERIN-DA...
I NEED TO REST, LUGER!
I FEEL AS THOUGH I'M BURNING UP!
"FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE DARK LEGION RETURNED WILLINGLY TO THE ZONE, BUT TO NO AVAIL.
"MERIN-DA STILL SUCCUMBED TO WHATEVER AILED HER AND PASSED INTO THE REALM BEYOND...

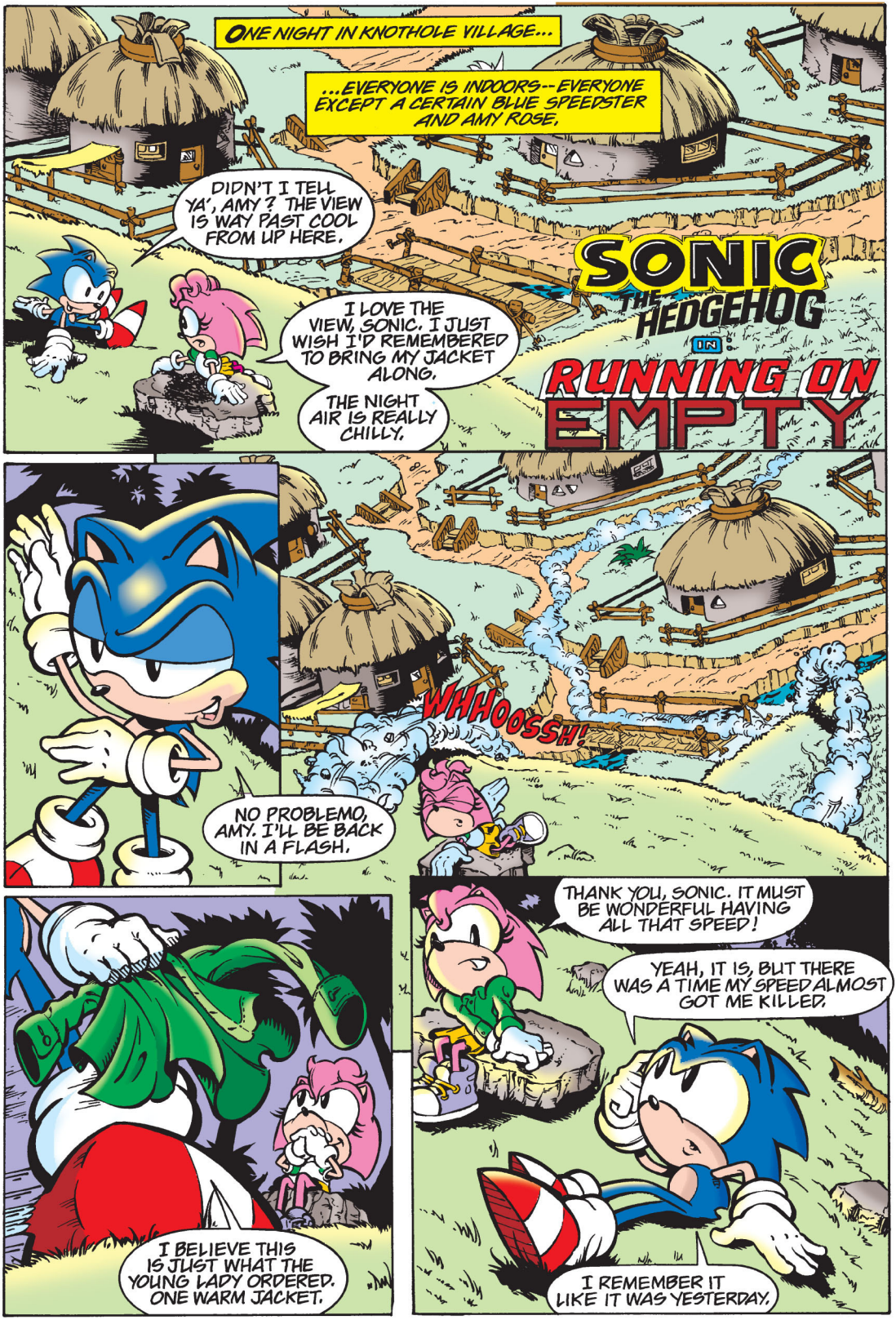

"SEVERAL YEARS WOULD PASS BEFORE LUGER RECOVERED FROM HIS LOSS, BUT WHEN HE DID, HE ALSO FOUND THE FAIR MARI-SU, WHO WOULD PROVE VERY MUCH TO BE EVERY BIT AS CAPABLE AS HE...
"WHILE LUGER MAY HAVE VIEWED HER AS A POTENTIAL MATE AND PARTNER, OTHERS--MORE SPECIFICALLY KRAGOK AND LEIN-DA, ABOUT SIXTEEN YEARS OLD AT THIS POINT--SAW MARI-SU AS A THREAT TO THEIR OWN AMBITIONS...
THE NERVE OF FATHER! HE NEVER ASKED WHAT WE THOUGHT!
"IF HE WAS DISPLEASED WITH HIS CHILDREN'S REACTION LUGER NEVER BETRAYED ANY OUTWARD SIGNS, ESPECIALLY ON THE DAY HE TOOK MARI-SU TO BE HIS WIFE...
I DO.
"A YEAR OR SO LATER YOU WERE BORN...
DON'T CRY, JULIE-SU!
DADDY WILL BE HERE AS SOON AS HE FINISHES WORK!
"I TELL YOU, MY DEAR, IT BROKE OUR HEARTS TO SEE YOU GROWING UP, ESPECIALLY AS A TODDLER!
"THERE YOU WERE, WANTING SO BADLY TO PLAY WITH YOUR HALF-BROTHER AND HALF-SISTER--
"--ONLY TO BE COMPLETELY IGNORED AND SHUNNED BY THEM!
"JUST WHEN WE THOUGHT IT COULDN'T GET ANY WORSE FOR YOU--

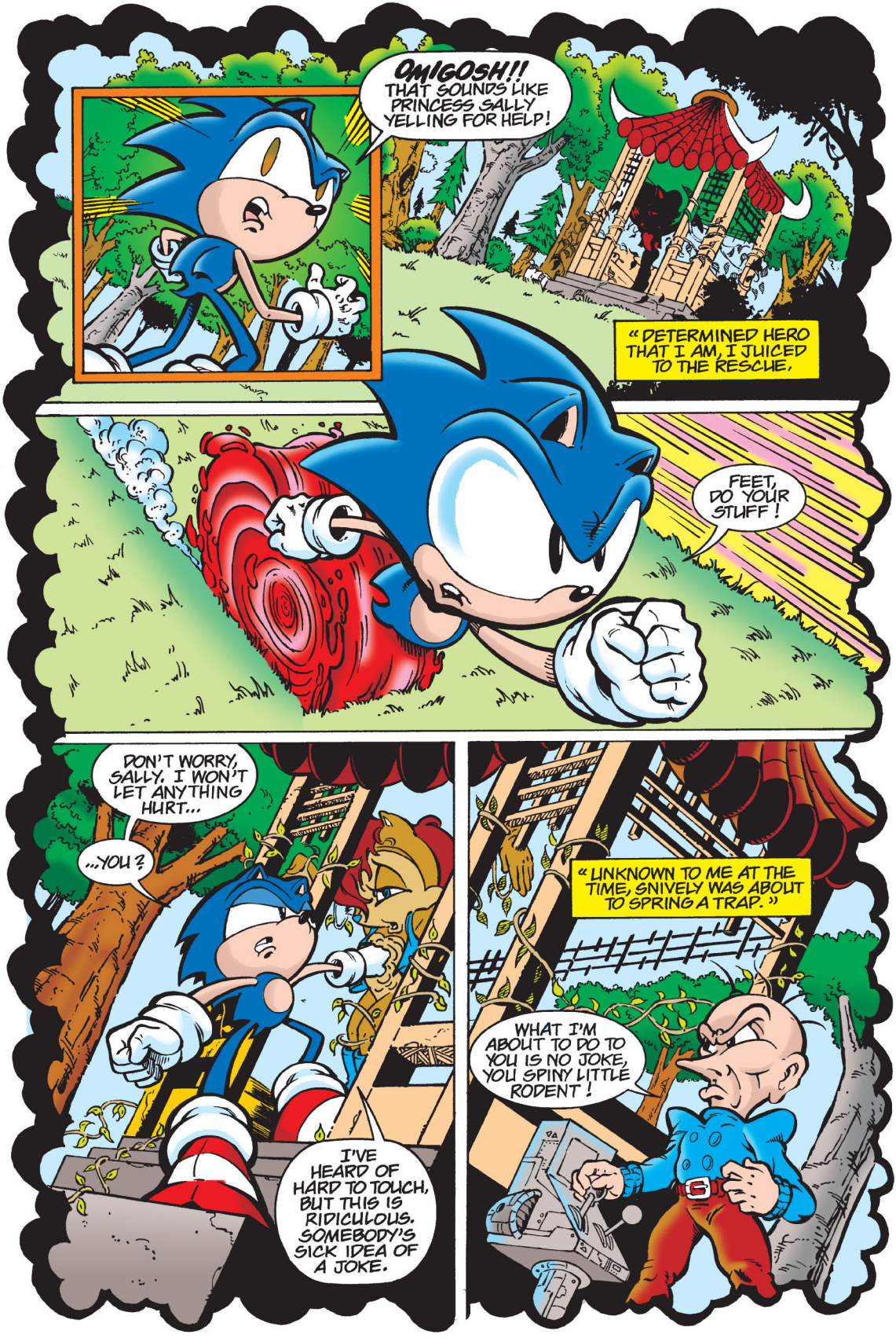

"--THAT'S WHEN MARI-SU MET WITH A TRAGIC ACCIDENT WHICH CLAIMED HER LIFE!
GOOD RIDDANCE!
"LUGER DIDN'T KNOW THE FIRST THING ABOUT RAISING A CHILD, SO HE ENTRUSTED YOU INTO THE CARE OF MY WIFE FLOREN-CA...
I'M SORRY, JULIE-SU, BUT I JUST DON'T HAVE THE TIME!
FLOREN-CA WILL TAKE WONDERFUL CARE OF YOU!
"NOT LONG AFTER, LUGER DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE, NEVER TO BE SEEN AGAIN.
"TO THIS DAY, NO ONE KNOWS WHAT REALLY HAPPENED, THOUGH I HAVE MY SUSPICIONS...
"IN ANY EVENT, THERE WASN'T ANY DISCONTENT AMONG THE RANK-AND-FILE WHEN KRAGOK SEIZED POWER SHORTLY THEREAFTER...
"SINCE KRAGOK AND LIEN-DA HAD NO DESIRE WHATSOEVER TO INVOLVE YOU IN THEIR AFFAIRS, THEY ACTIVATED A MEMORY NEUTRALIZING CHIP EVERY DARK LEGIONNAIRE HAS INSTALLED UPON BIRTH.
"THEY ORDERED US TO PRETEND YOU WERE AN ORPHAN, AND THAT FLOREN-CA WAS THE ONLY PARENTAL FIGURE YOU'D EVER KNOWN.
"BECAUSE I WORKED DIRECTLY UNDER MORITORI REX AS HIS AIDE, KRAGOK AND LIEN-DA KNEW I DIDN'T FEAR THEM, SO THEY REASSIGNED ME TO LEAD AN INFANTRY UNIT ON SUPPLY RAIDS, HOPING THAT WOULD GET RID OF ME...

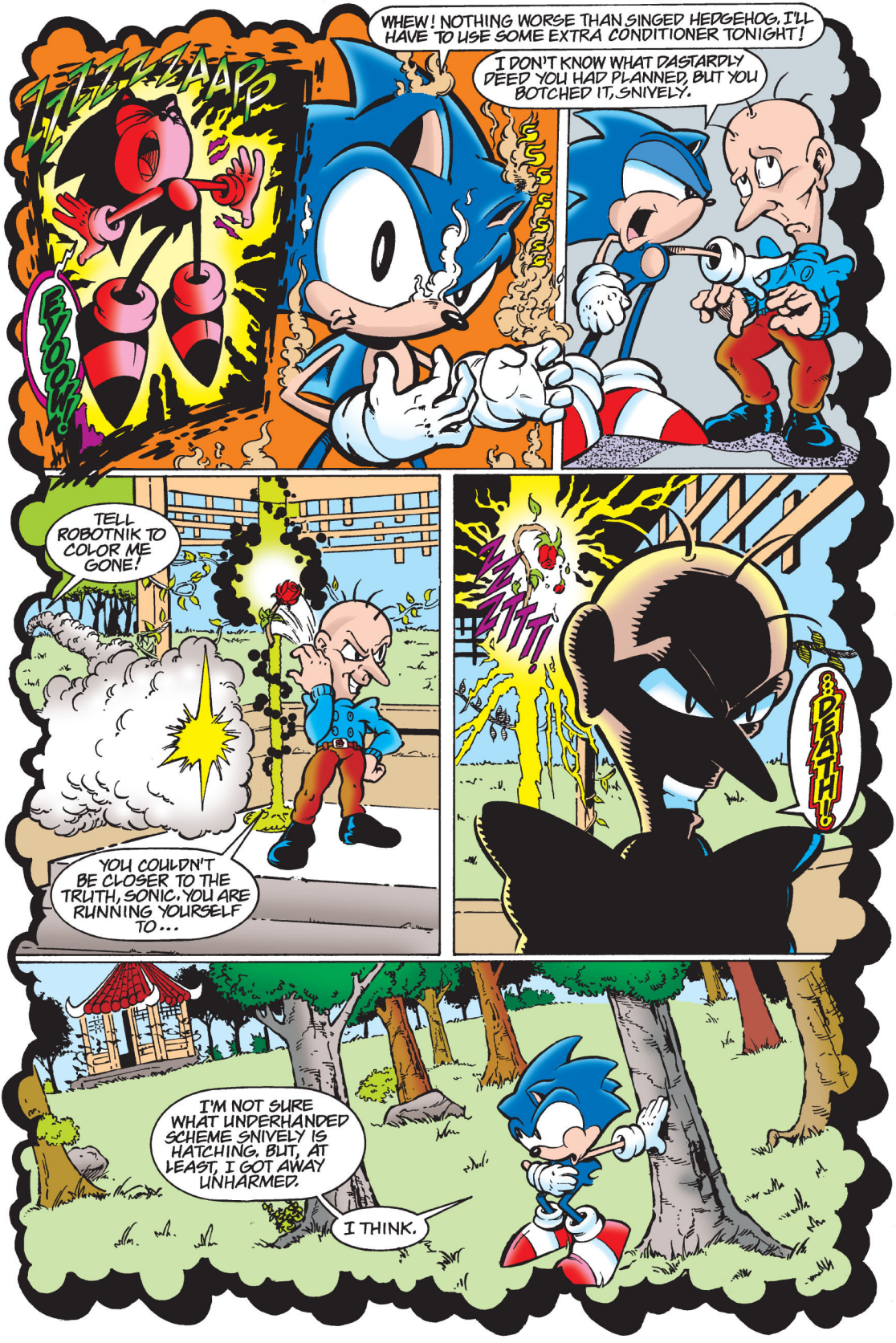

EVEN THAT WASN'T ENOUGH! EVENTUALLY, THEY TOOK YOU AWAY FROM FLOREN-CA!
SHE TOOK CARE OF YOU FOR ALMOST EIGHT YEARS! AND YOU BECAME THE DAUGHTER WE NEVER HAD!
SO WHY DON'T I REMEMBER ANY OF THIS? ESPECIALLY FLOREN-CA?
WE FIGURED KRAGOK AND LIEN-DA MUST HAVE PERFORMED A MIND-WIPE ON YOU!
WHEN WE DISCOVERED YOU WERE ALIVE AND WELL, I CAME HERE TO GATHER EVIDENCE FOR YOUR BENEFIT!
IF YOU REALLY WERE WITH THE LEGION YOU'D HAVE KNOWN I WAS ALWAYS AROUND!
SHORTLY AFTER THEY'D TAKEN YOU, THE PORTAL OPENED AGAIN.
THAT'S WHEN I MADE THE DECISION TO TAKE FLOREN-CA AND SETTLE ON THE FLOATING ISLAND!
SO WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
LET'S GO HOME, CHILD!
I KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD DEARLY LOVE TO SEE YOU!
WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?
LET'S GO!
A BEGINNING

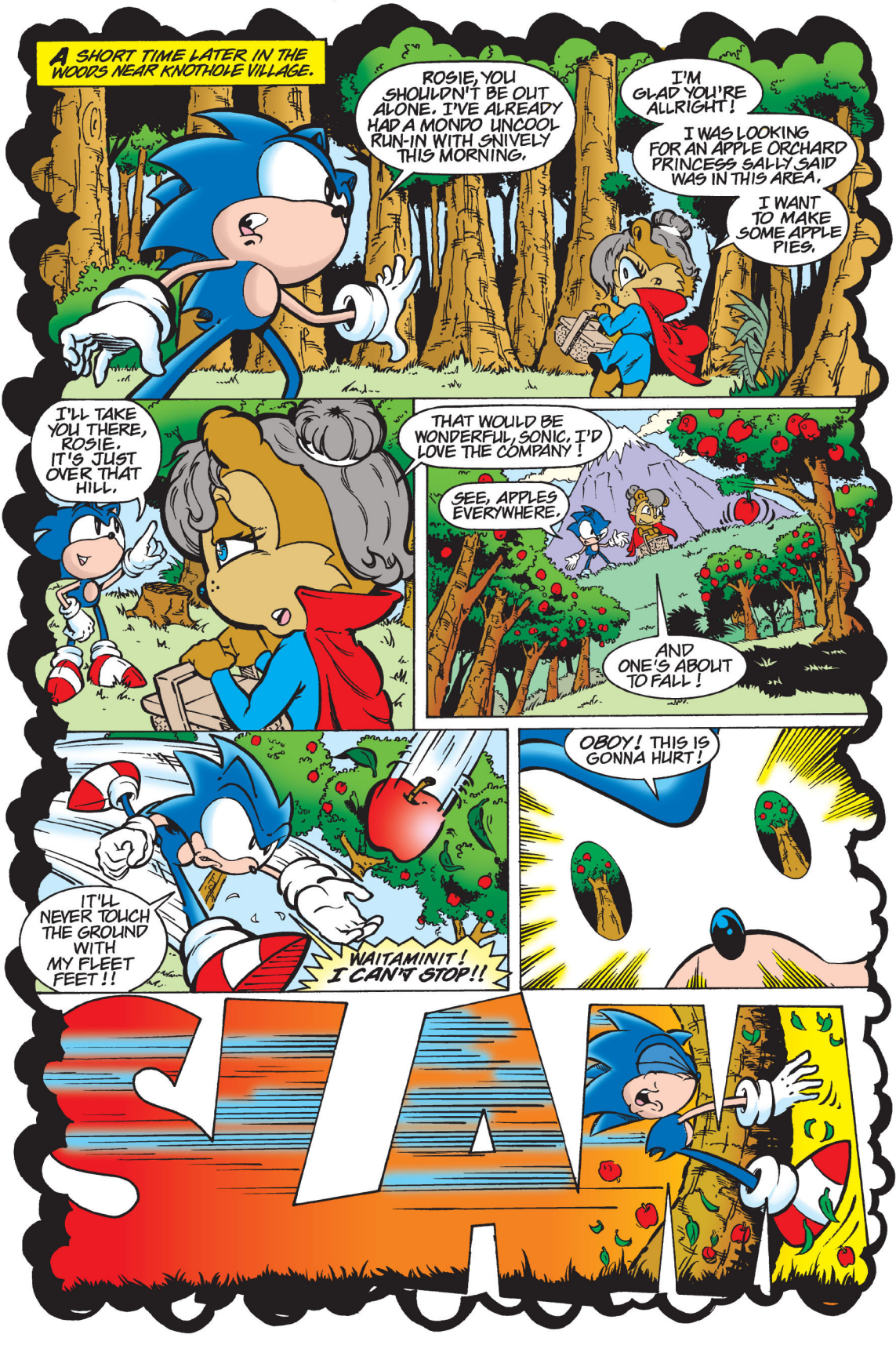
JULIE-SU™

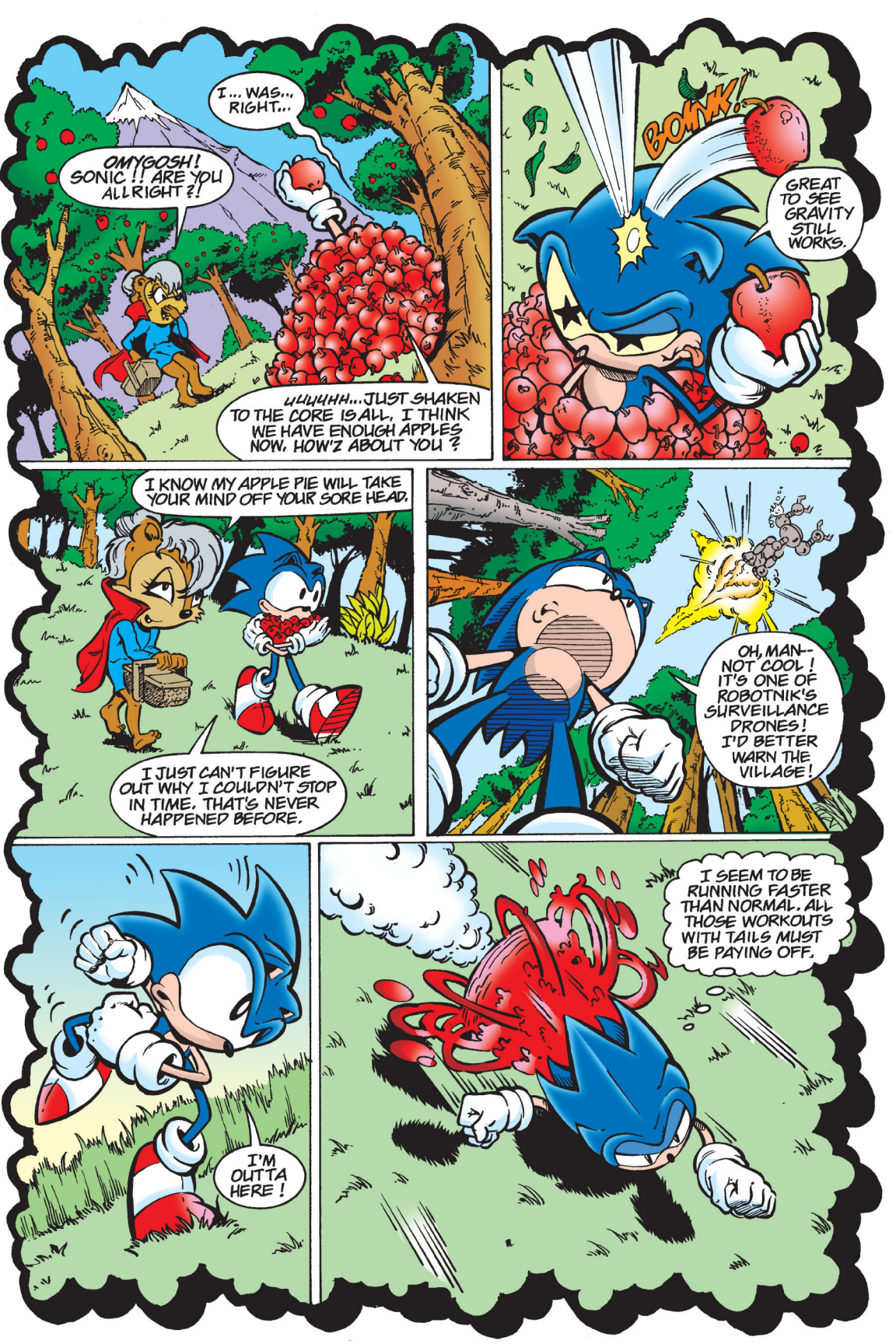
BONUS PIN-UP by TRACY YARDLEY! and ROSARIO "TITO" PEÑA

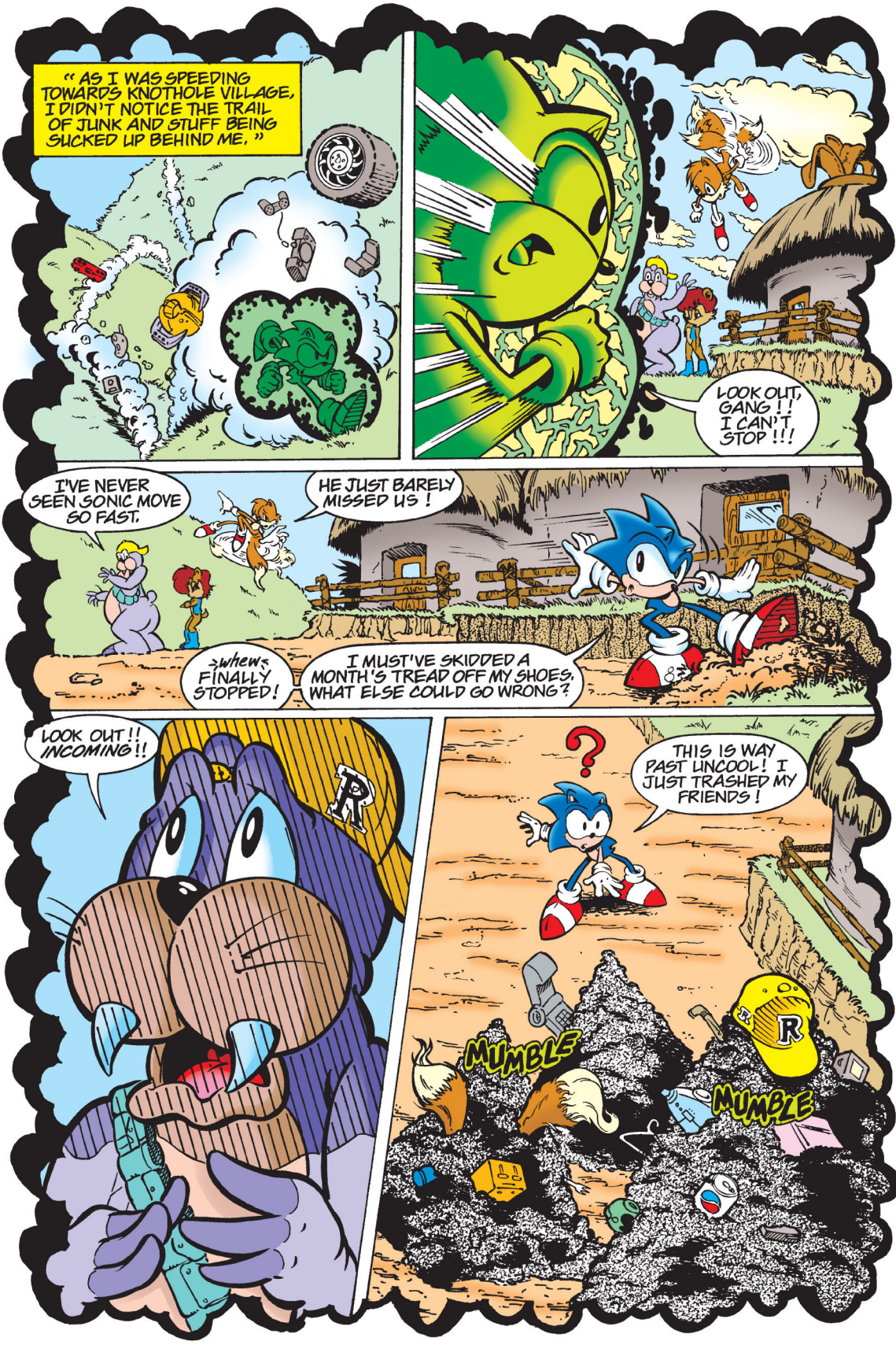

ONE NIGHT IN KNOTHOLE VILLAGE...
...EVERYONE IS INDOORS--EVERYONE EXCEPT A CERTAIN BLUE SPEEDSTER AND AMY ROSE.
DIDN'T I TELL YA', AMY? THE VIEW IS WAY PAST COOL FROM UP HERE.
I LOVE THE VIEW, SONIC. I JUST WISH I'D REMEMBERED TO BRING MY JACKET ALONG.
THE NIGHT AIR IS REALLY CHILLY.
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG IN RUNNING ON EMPTY
WHHOOSSH!
NO PROBLEMO, AMY. I'LL BE BACK IN A FLASH.
I BELIEVE THIS IS JUST WHAT THE YOUNG LADY ORDERED. ONE WARM JACKET.
THANK YOU, SONIC. IT MUST BE WONDERFUL HAVING ALL THAT SPEED!
YEAH, IT IS, BUT THERE WAS A TIME MY SPEED ALMOST GOT ME KILLED.
I REMEMBER IT LIKE IT WAS YESTERDAY.

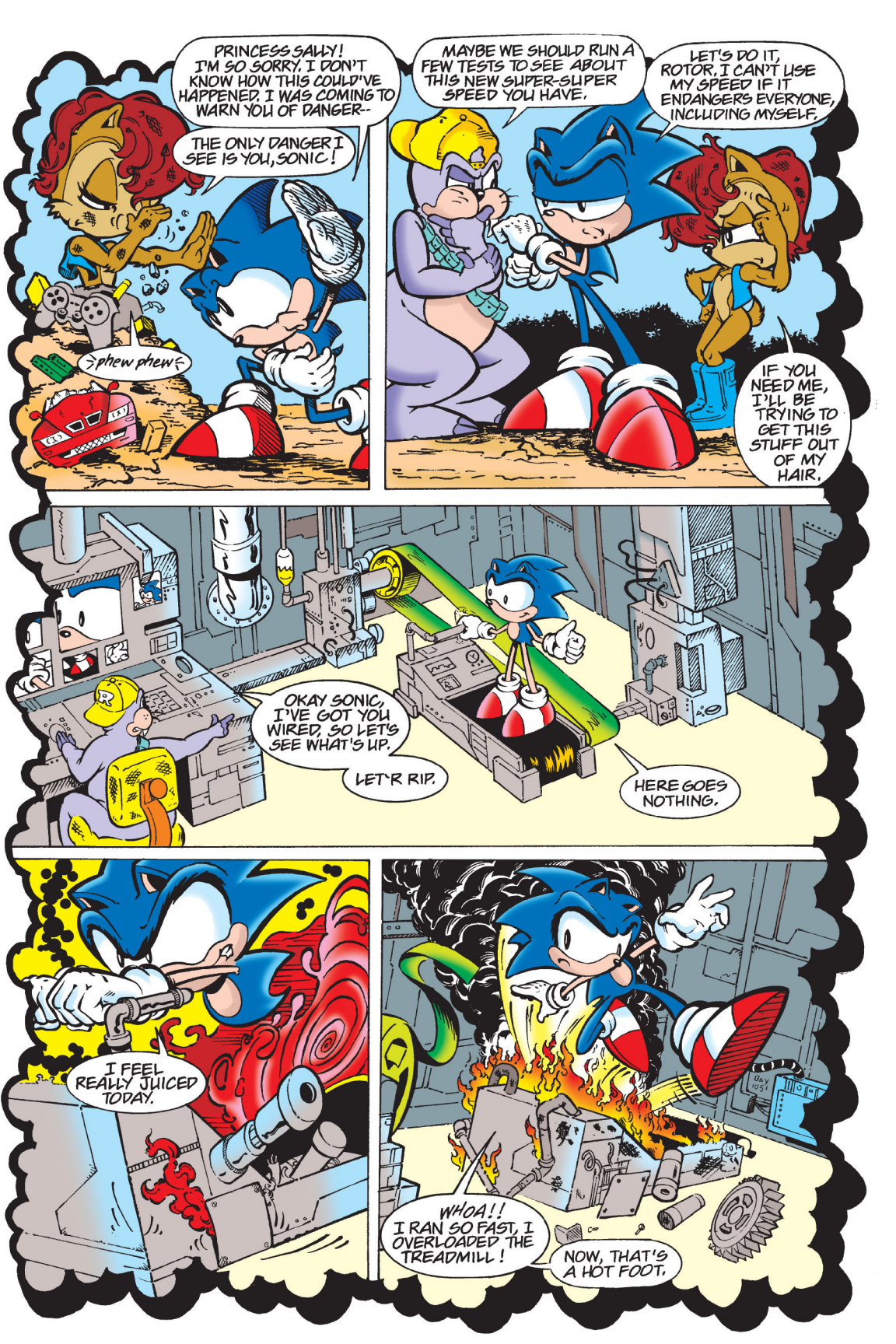

OMIGOSH!! THAT SOUNDS LIKE PRINCESS SALLY YELLING FOR HELP!
« DETERMINED HERO THAT I AM, I JUICED TO THE RESCUE,
FEET, DO YOUR STUFF!
DON'T WORRY, SALLY. I WON'T LET ANYTHING HURT...
...YOU?
I'VE HEARD OF HARD TO TOUCH, BUT THIS IS RIDICULOUS. SOMEBODY'S SICK IDEA OF A JOKE.
« UNKNOWN TO ME AT THE TIME, SNIVELY WAS ABOUT TO SPRING A TRAP. »
WHAT I'M ABOUT TO DO TO YOU IS NO JOKE, YOU SPINY LITTLE RODENT!

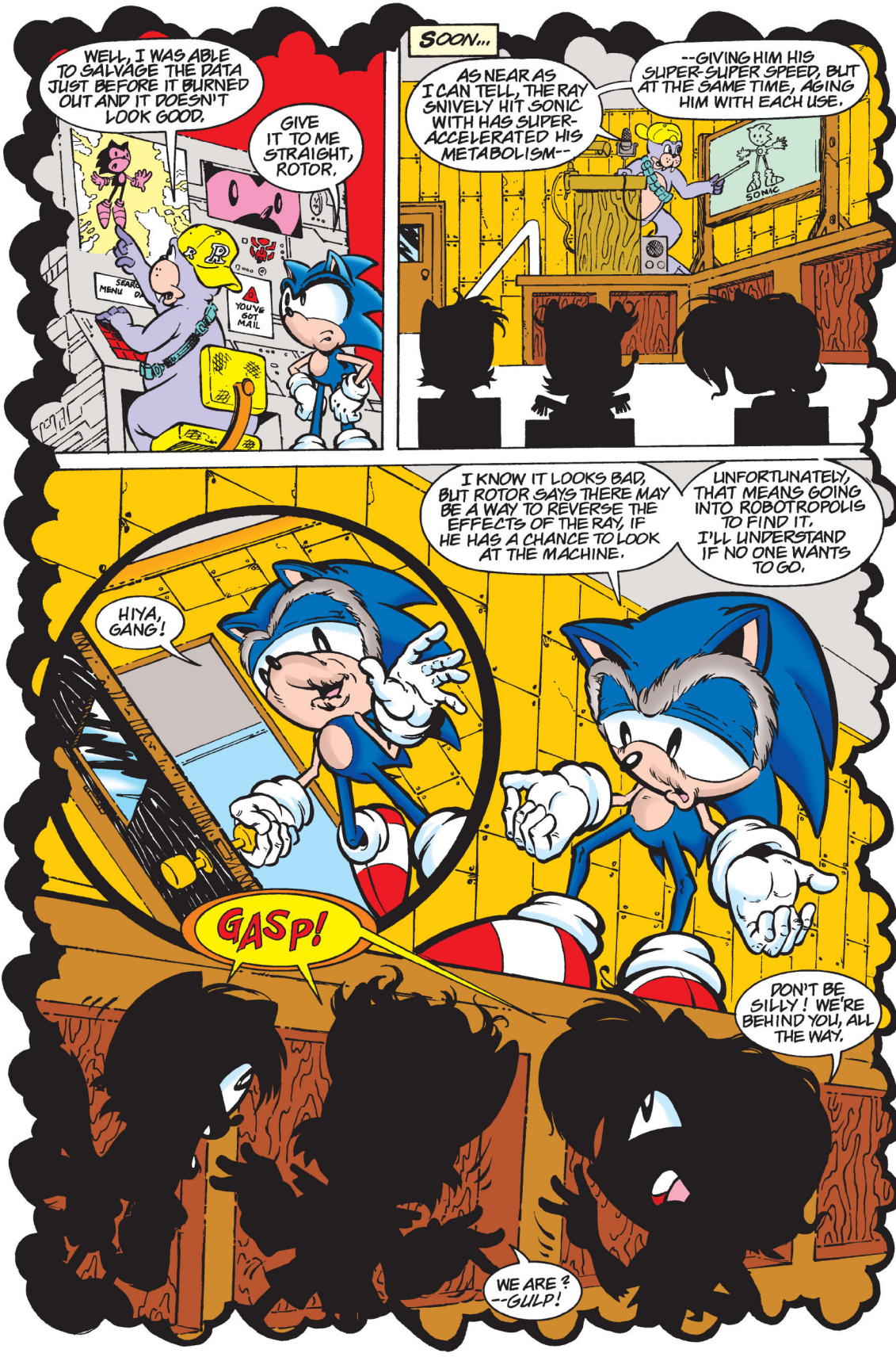

WHEW! NOTHING WORSE THAN SINGED HEDGEHOG. I'LL HAVE TO USE SOME EXTRA CONDITIONER TONIGHT!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT DASTARDLY DEED YOU HAD PLANNED, BUT YOU BOTCHED IT, SNIVELY.
ZZZZZAAP
SSSSSSSS
EEOOW!
TELL ROBOTNIK TO COLOR ME GONE!
YOU COULDN'T BE CLOSER TO THE TRUTH, SONIC. YOU ARE RUNNING YOURSELF TO...
WHITT!
& DEATH!
I'M NOT SURE WHAT UNDERHANDED SCHEME SNIVELY IS HATCHING. BUT, AT LEAST, I GOT AWAY UNHARMED.
I THINK.

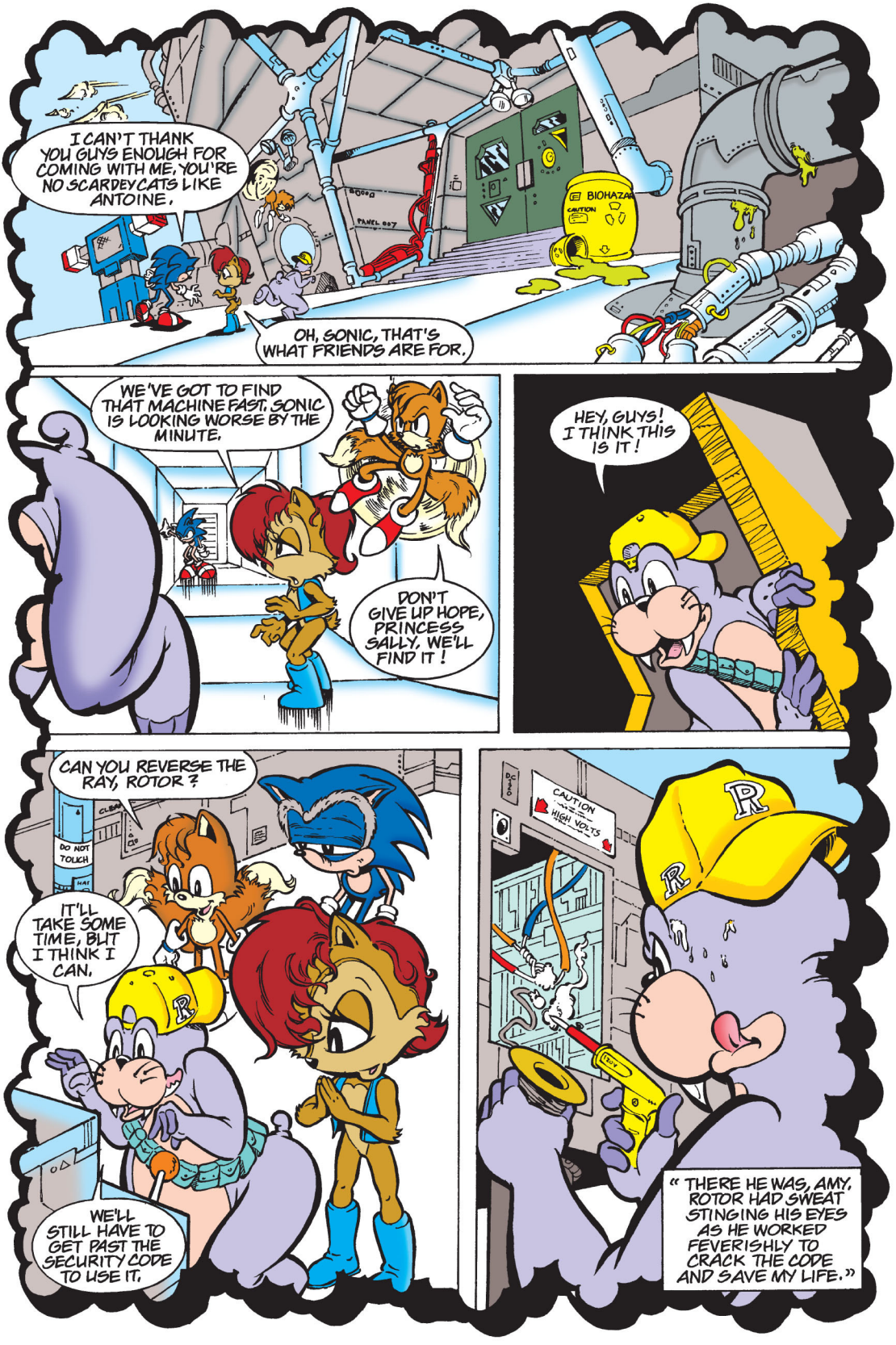

A SHORT TIME LATER IN THE WOODS NEAR KNOTHOLE VILLAGE.
ROSIE, YOU SHOULDN'T BE OUT ALONE. I'VE ALREADY HAD A MONDO UNCOOL RUN-IN WITH SNIVELY THIS MORNING.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE ALLRIGHT!
I WAS LOOKING FOR AN APPLE ORCHARD PRINCESS SALLY SAID WAS IN THIS AREA.
I WANT TO MAKE SOME APPLE PIES.
I'LL TAKE YOU THERE, ROSIE. IT'S JUST OVER THAT HILL.
THAT WOULD BE WONDERFUL, SONIC, I'D LOVE THE COMPANY!
SEE, APPLES EVERYWHERE.
AND ONE'S ABOUT TO FALL!
OBOY! THIS IS GONNA HURT!
IT'LL NEVER TOUCH THE GROUND WITH MY FLEET FEET!!
WAITAMINIT! I CAN'T STOP!!
SLAM

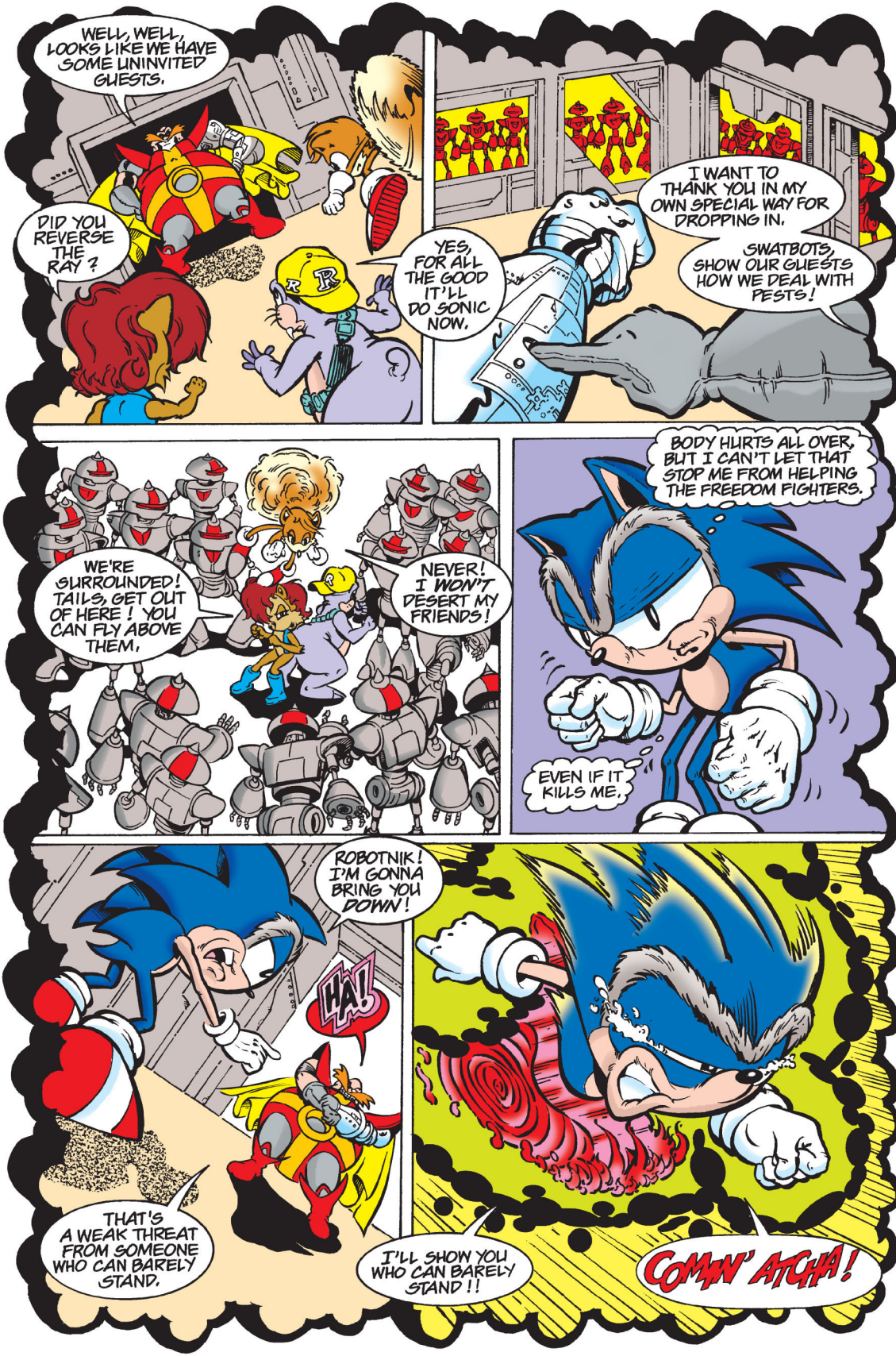

I... WAS... RIGHT...
OMYGOSH! SONIC!! ARE YOU ALLRIGHT?!
UUUHH...JUST SHAKEN TO THE CORE IS ALL, I THINK WE HAVE ENOUGH APPLES NOW. HOW'Z ABOUT YOU?
BONK!
GREAT TO SEE GRAVITY STILL WORKS.
I KNOW MY APPLE PIE WILL TAKE YOUR MIND OFF YOUR SORE HEAD.
I JUST CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHY I COULDN'T STOP IN TIME. THAT'S NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE.
OH, MAN-- NOT COOL! IT'S ONE OF ROBOTNIK'S SURVEILLANCE DRONES! I'D BETTER WARN THE VILLAGE!
I'M OUTTA HERE!
I SEEM TO BE RUNNING FASTER THAN NORMAL. ALL THOSE WORKOUTS WITH TAILS MUST BE PAYING OFF.

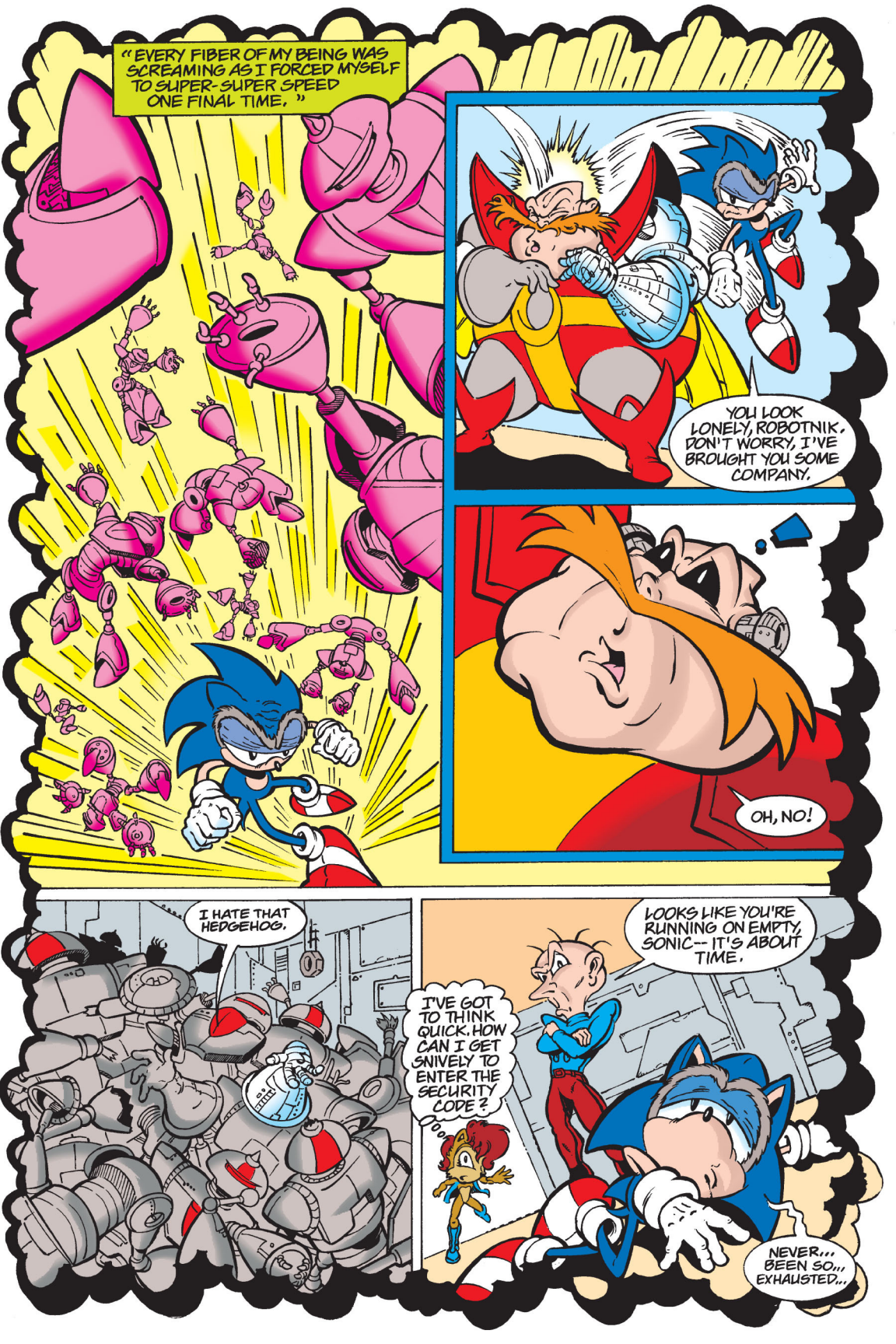

"AS I WAS SPEEDING TOWARDS KNOTHOLE VILLAGE, I DIDN'T NOTICE THE TRAIL OF JUNK AND STUFF BEING SUCKED UP BEHIND ME."
LOOK OUT, GANG!! I CAN'T STOP!!!
I'VE NEVER SEEN SONIC MOVE SO FAST.
HE JUST BARELY MISSED US!
whew, FINALLY STOPPED!
I MUST'VE SKIDDED A MONTH'S TREAD OFF MY SHOES. WHAT ELSE COULD GO WRONG?
LOOK OUT!! INCOMING!!
THIS IS WAY PAST UNCOOL! I JUST TRASHED MY FRIENDS!
MUMBLE
MUMBLE

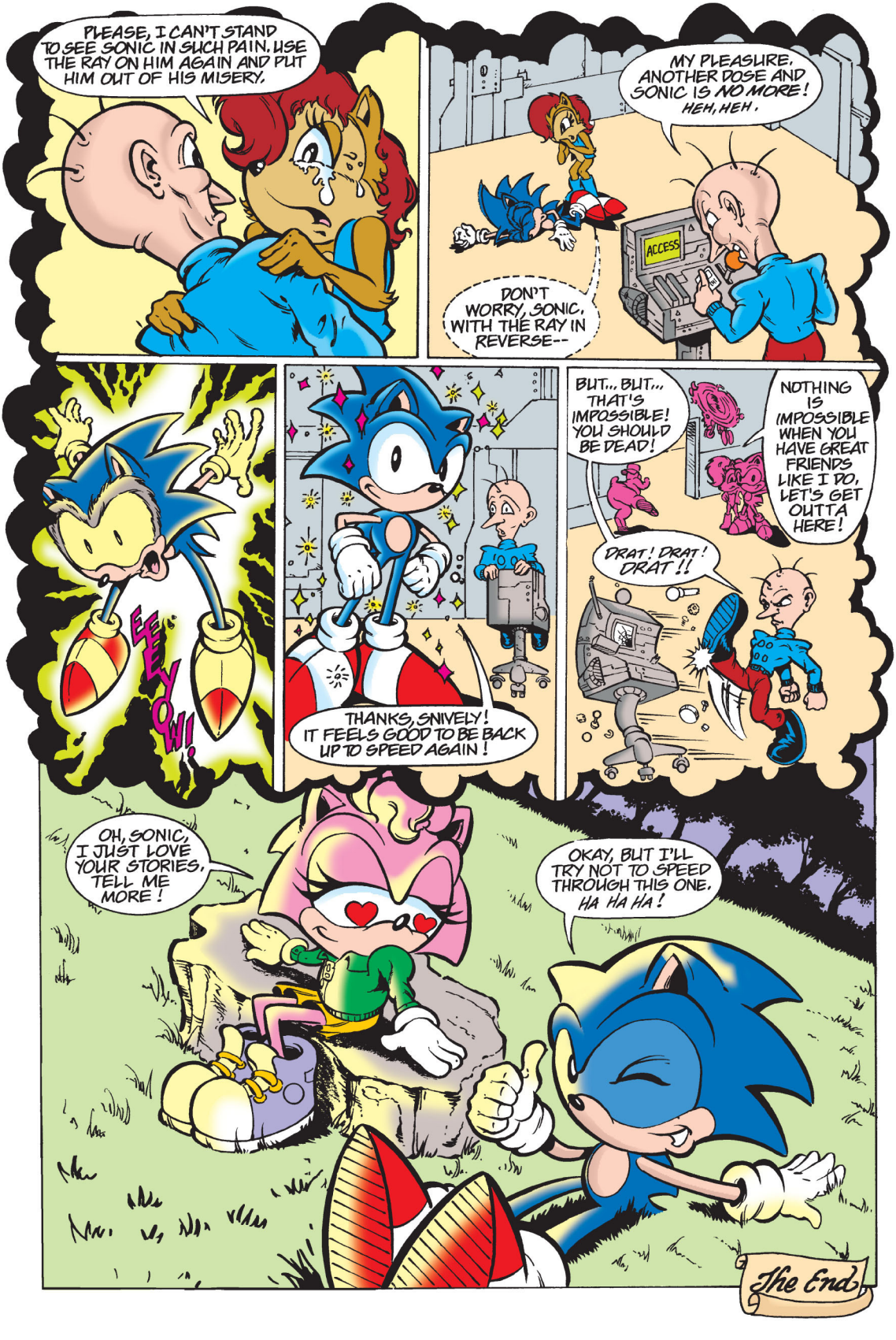

PRINCESS SALLY! I'M SO SORRY. I DON'T KNOW HOW THIS COULD'VE HAPPENED. I WAS COMING TO WARN YOU OF DANGER--
THE ONLY DANGER I SEE IS YOU, SONIC!
=phew phew=
MAYBE WE SHOULD RUN A FEW TESTS TO SEE ABOUT THIS NEW SUPER-SUPER SPEED YOU HAVE.
LET'S DO IT, ROTOR, I CAN'T USE MY SPEED IF IT ENDANGERS EVERYONE, INCLUDING MYSELF.
IF YOU NEED ME, I'LL BE TRYING TO GET THIS STUFF OUT OF MY HAIR.
OKAY SONIC, I'VE GOT YOU WIRED, SO LET'S SEE WHAT'S UP.
LET'R RIP.
HERE GOES NOTHING.
I FEEL REALLY JUICED TODAY.
WHOA!! I RAN SO FAST, I OVERLOADED THE TREADMILL!
NOW, THAT'S A HOT FOOT.

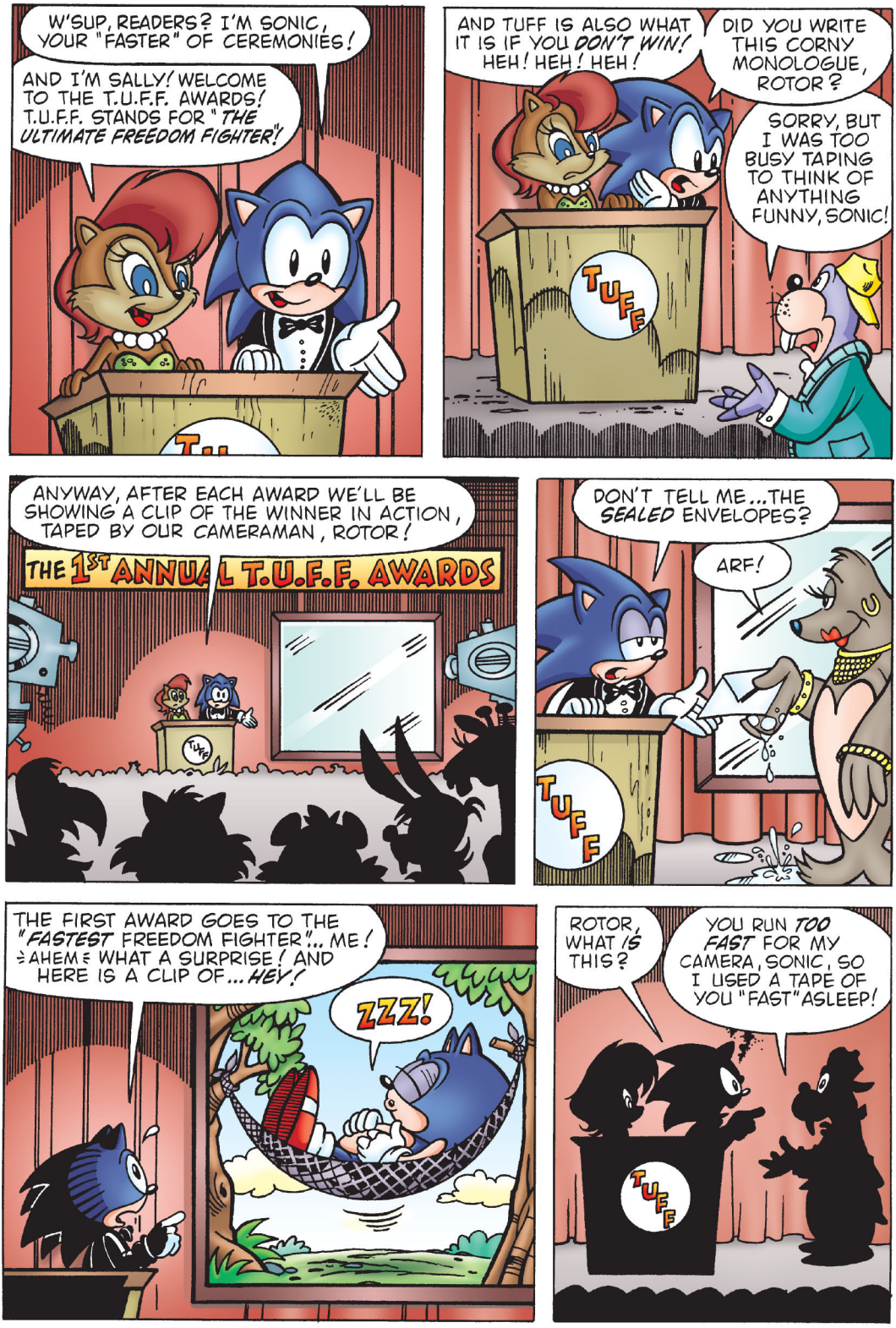

WELL, I WAS ABLE TO SALVAGE THE DATA JUST BEFORE IT BURNED OUT AND IT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD.
GIVE IT TO ME STRAIGHT, ROTOR.
YOU'VE GOT MAIL
SOON...
AS NEAR AS I CAN TELL, THE RAY SNIVELY HIT SONIC WITH HAS SUPER-ACCELERATED HIS METABOLISM--
--GIVING HIM HIS SUPER-SUPER SPEED, BUT AT THE SAME TIME, AGING HIM WITH EACH USE.
SONIC
I KNOW IT LOOKS BAD, BUT ROTOR SAYS THERE MAY BE A WAY TO REVERSE THE EFFECTS OF THE RAY, IF HE HAS A CHANCE TO LOOK AT THE MACHINE.
UNFORTUNATELY, THAT MEANS GOING INTO ROBOTROPOLIS TO FIND IT. I'LL UNDERSTAND IF NO ONE WANTS TO GO.
HIYA, GANG!
GASP!
DON'T BE SILLY! WE'RE BEHIND YOU, ALL THE WAY.
WE ARE? --GULP!

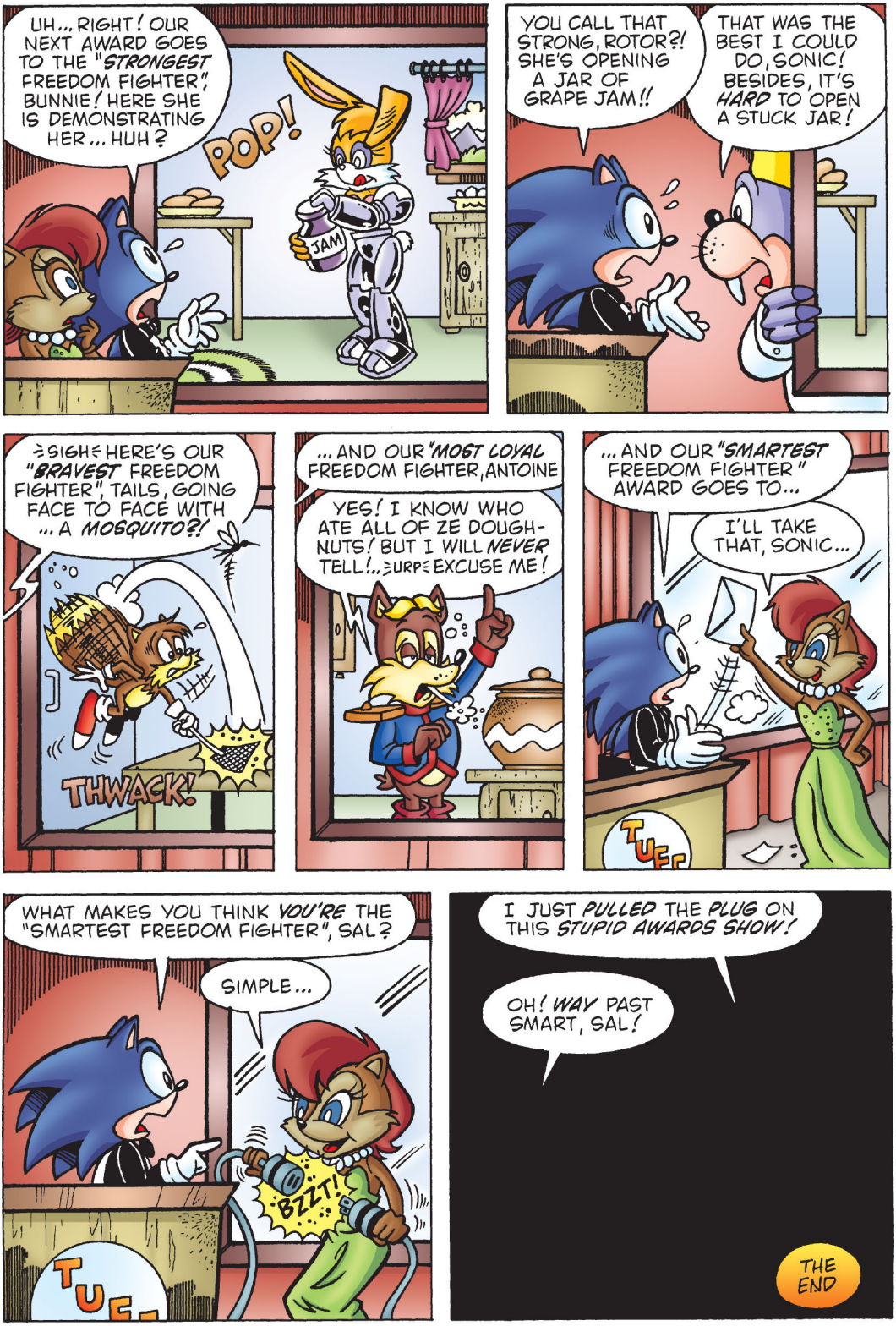

I CAN'T THANK YOU GUYS ENOUGH FOR COMING WITH ME, YOU'RE NO SCARDEY CATS LIKE ANTOINE.
BIOHAZARD
CAUTION
PANEL 807
OH, SONIC, THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR.
WE'VE GOT TO FIND THAT MACHINE FAST. SONIC IS LOOKING WORSE BY THE MINUTE.
DON'T GIVE UP HOPE, PRINCESS SALLY. WE'LL FIND IT!
HEY, GUYS! I THINK THIS IS IT!
CAN YOU REVERSE THE RAY, ROTOR?
DO NOT TOUCH
IT'LL TAKE SOME TIME, BUT I THINK I CAN.
WE'LL STILL HAVE TO GET PAST THE SECURITY CODE TO USE IT.
CAUTION
HIGH VOLTS
"THERE HE WAS, AMY. ROTOR HAD SWEAT STINGING HIS EYES AS HE WORKED FEVERISHLY TO CRACK THE CODE AND SAVE MY LIFE."


WELL, WELL, LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE SOME UNINVITED GUESTS.
DID YOU REVERSE THE RAY ?
YES, FOR ALL THE GOOD IT'LL DO SONIC NOW.
I WANT TO THANK YOU IN MY OWN SPECIAL WAY FOR DROPPING IN.
SWATBOTS, SHOW OUR GUESTS HOW WE DEAL WITH PESTS!
WE'RE SURROUNDED! TAILS, GET OUT OF HERE ! YOU CAN FLY ABOVE THEM.
NEVER! I WON'T DESERT MY FRIENDS!
BODY HURTS ALL OVER, BUT I CAN'T LET THAT STOP ME FROM HELPING THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS.
EVEN IF IT KILLS ME.
ROBOTNIK! I'M GONNA BRING YOU DOWN!
HA!
THAT'S A WEAK THREAT FROM SOMEONE WHO CAN BARELY STAND.
I'LL SHOW YOU WHO CAN BARELY STAND !!
COMIN' ATCHA!

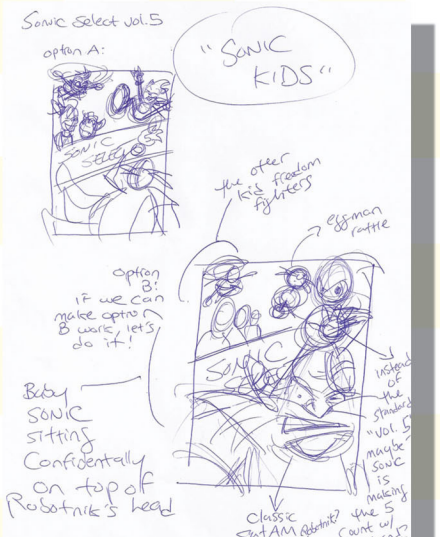

"EVERY FIBER OF MY BEING WAS SCREAMING AS I FORCED MYSELF TO SUPER-SUPER SPEED ONE FINAL TIME."
YOU LOOK LONELY, ROBOTNIK. DON'T WORRY, I'VE BROUGHT YOU SOME COMPANY.
OH, NO!
I HATE THAT HEDGEHOG.
I'VE GOT TO THINK QUICK. HOW CAN I GET SNIVELY TO ENTER THE SECURITY CODE?
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE RUNNING ON EMPTY, SONIC-- IT'S ABOUT TIME.
NEVER... BEEN SO... EXHAUSTED..


PLEASE, I CAN'T STAND TO SEE SONIC IN SUCH PAIN. USE THE RAY ON HIM AGAIN AND PUT HIM OUT OF HIS MISERY.
MY PLEASURE. ANOTHER DOSE AND SONIC IS NO MORE! HEH, HEH.
ACCESS
DON'T WORRY, SONIC. WITH THE RAY IN REVERSE--
EEEYOW!
THANKS, SNIVELY! IT FEELS GOOD TO BE BACK UP TO SPEED AGAIN!
BUT.., BUT.., THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! YOU SHOULD BE DEAD!
NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WHEN YOU HAVE GREAT FRIENDS LIKE I DO, LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
DRAT! DRAT! DRAT!!
OH, SONIC, I JUST LOVE YOUR STORIES, TELL ME MORE!
OKAY, BUT I'LL TRY NOT TO SPEED THROUGH THIS ONE. HA HA HA!
The End


W'SUP, READERS? I'M SONIC, YOUR "FASTER" OF CEREMONIES!
AND I'M SALLY! WELCOME TO THE T.U.F.F. AWARDS! T.U.F.F. STANDS FOR "THE ULTIMATE FREEDOM FIGHTER"!
AND TUFF IS ALSO WHAT IT IS IF YOU DON'T WIN! HEH! HEH! HEH!
DID YOU WRITE THIS CORNY MONOLOGUE, ROTOR?
SORRY, BUT I WAS TOO BUSY TAPING TO THINK OF ANYTHING FUNNY, SONIC!
TUFF
ANYWAY, AFTER EACH AWARD WE'LL BE SHOWING A CLIP OF THE WINNER IN ACTION, TAPED BY OUR CAMERAMAN, ROTOR!
THE 1ST ANNUAL T.U.F.F. AWARDS
DON'T TELL ME...THE SEALED ENVELOPES?
ARF!
TUFF
THE FIRST AWARD GOES TO THE "FASTEST FREEDOM FIGHTER"... ME! AHEM! WHAT A SURPRISE! AND HERE IS A CLIP OF... HEY!
ZZZ!
ROTOR, WHAT IS THIS?
YOU RUN TOO FAST FOR MY CAMERA, SONIC, SO I USED A TAPE OF YOU "FAST" ASLEEP!
TUFF

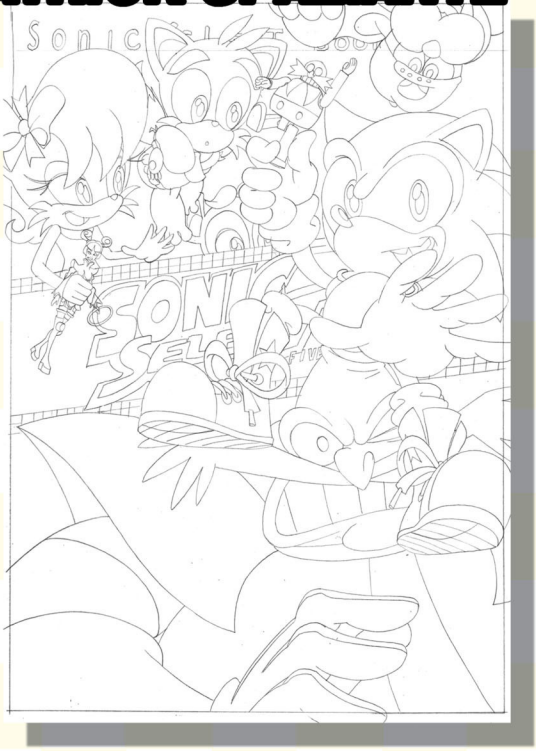

UH... RIGHT! OUR NEXT AWARD GOES TO THE "STRONGEST FREEDOM FIGHTER", BUNNIE! HERE SHE IS DEMONSTRATING HER... HUH?
POP!
JAM
YOU CALL THAT STRONG, ROTOR?! SHE'S OPENING A JAR OF GRAPE JAM!!
THAT WAS THE BEST I COULD DO, SONIC! BESIDES, IT'S HARD TO OPEN A STUCK JAR!
≥SIGH≤ HERE'S OUR "BRAVEST FREEDOM FIGHTER", TAILS, GOING FACE TO FACE WITH ...A MOSQUITO?!
THWACK!
...AND OUR "MOST LOYAL FREEDOM FIGHTER, ANTOINE
YES! I KNOW WHO ATE ALL OF ZE DOUGHNUTS! BUT I WILL NEVER TELL!.. ≥URP≤ EXCUSE ME!
...AND OUR "SMARTEST FREEDOM FIGHTER" AWARD GOES TO...
I'LL TAKE THAT, SONIC...
TUFF
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU'RE THE "SMARTEST FREEDOM FIGHTER", SAL?
SIMPLE...
BZZT!
TUFF
I JUST PULLED THE PLUG ON THIS STUPID AWARDS SHOW!
OH! WAY PAST SMART, SAL!
THE END

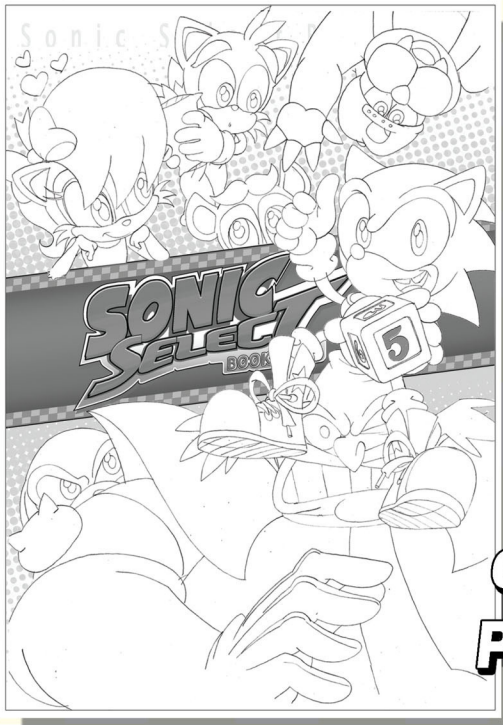
COVER PRODUCTION


Sonic Select vol.5
option A:
"SONIC KIDS"
option B:
IF we can make option B work, let's do it!
Baby SONIC sitting Confidentally on top of Robotnik's head
classic

COVER CONCEPT THUMBNAIL
PAUL KAMINSKI

COVER CONCEPT 1
PATRICK SPAZIANTE





COVER CONCEPT 2
PATRICK SPAZIANTE

COVER PRODUCTION

COVER CONCEPT 3
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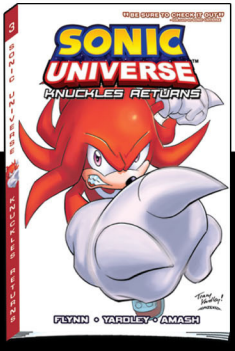

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